

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XII.—NEW SERIES, No. 322.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1852.

PRICE 6d.

ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE beg to announce that the First of a Series of MONTHLY MEETINGS, to be held in the Theatre of the CITY OF LONDON LITERARY INSTITUTION, 165, Aldersgate-street, will take place on THURSDAY (to-morrow), when Addresses will be delivered by the Rev. WILLIAM BROCK, JOHN SCOBLE, Esq., and the Rev. BREWIN GRANT, of Birmingham.

The Chair will be taken by N. GRIFFIN, Esq., at Seven o'clock. J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.

41, Ludgate-hill.
Catalogues of the Society's Publications will be forwarded on application.

LONDON TEMPERANCE LEAGUE.

A LECTURE will be delivered in EXETER-HALL, on MONDAY, January 19th, 1852, by the REV. NEWMAN HALL, B.A., of Hall.

SUBJECT:—The hindrances of the drinking system to the progress of religion; and the consequent claims of the Temperance movement upon professing Christians.

The Chair will be taken at SEVEN o'clock. Admission to the body of the Hall FREE.

Tickets for the Platform or Reserved Seats, may be obtained at Mr. Gilpin's, 5, Bishopsgate Without, and of the Honorary Secretaries.

T. C. PREBBLE, } Hon. Secs.
E. GRIFFITHS, }

Temporary Offices, 11, Wellington-street North, Strand.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY.

THE CLASSES of the NORMAL SCHOOL will RE-OPEN early in January. Candidates who are desirous of availing themselves of the superior advantages afforded by the Institution to those who are desirous of pursuing the occupation of a teacher, should apply without delay to the Secretary at the Society's House, Borough-road, London.

HENRY DUNN, Secretary.

WANTED, by a Tradesman in a lucrative Business, the loan of £200 or £300 for four years at liberal interest. Any Brother or Sister having that sum to spare has an opportunity of rendering great assistance to one of the same family. No risk, or the Advertiser would not solicit.

Letters addressed, W. C., Mr. Wallis, Baptist Minister, Elizabeth Cottage, Bexley Heath, Kent.

WANTED, as TOWN MISSIONARY, a Member of a Christian Church, of undoubted piety, and thorough acquaintance with the habits of the Working-Classes in manufacturing districts.

Applications, with References and Testimonials, to be sent, (post paid) on or before January 28th, to the Rev. R. P. Clarke, Chapel Cottage, Over Darwen, Lancashire. Salary, £70 per ann.

A LADY, accustomed to the Care and Education of Children, is desirous of entering a family where she would have the entire charge of two or three motherless children. She would not object to superintend the domestic arrangements of the family. Unexceptionable references can be furnished.

Address, prepaid, to E. S., Downham Market, Norfolk.

THE HYDROPATHIC INSTITUTION near LEICESTER. Heated with Hot-water Apparatus, for Winter Patients. ROWLAND EAST, M.D., Author of "Principles and Practice of the Water-Cure," and "Functional Disorders of Women." Allan, Paternoster-row. Ministers charged £2 2s. per week.

BUCKBY HALL.

Near DAVENTRY, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

MRS. BURDETT continues to receive Young Ladies, for the purpose of imparting both a complete English and Ornamental Education. The Mansion is spacious, in an excellent situation, and has extensive pleasure-grounds. The domestic arrangements are liberal, the health of the young people is watched with maternal care, and unremitting attention is paid to the improvement of the temper and the heart.

The School will RE-OPEN on TUESDAY, the 20th inst. Prospectuses and references will be forwarded on application.

BLUE-STILE HOUSE ACADEMY, GREENWICH.

MESSRS. KNIGHTLEY and SON will be happy to forward a Prospectus of the terms, and of the course of study pursued at this establishment, to parents desirous of securing for their sons the advantages of a superior education on moderate terms. The duties of the School will be resumed on Monday, the 19th inst.

January 8, 1852.

THE REV. G. R. MIALI, of Ullesthorpe, Leicestershire, is desirous of receiving into his family two or three additional pupils to educate with his son. Strict attention is paid to moral and religious, as well as mental training. Terms, 40 guineas per annum. References can be given if required. Ullesthorpe is a healthy rural village, 13 miles from Leicester, and is a station on the Midland Railway.

TOWNLEY HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT FOR YOUNG LADIES, RAMSGATE.

MR. and MRS. HOFLESH respectfully inform their Friends and the Public that their Vacation will terminate on the 23rd inst., on which day they purpose returning with the Young Ladies from London. Terms, with an engraved view of the house, will be forwarded on application.

EDUCATION FOR YOUNG LADIES, King-street, Leicester.

THE MISSES MIALI, whose School has been Established for upwards of Ten Years, will have VACANCIES for THREE or FOUR BOARDERS, after the Christmas Vacation. The advantages enjoyed by their Pupils are of a superior order, affording them a liberal and solid education; the strictest attention being paid to the formation of their character, and to their moral and religious training. The course of instruction pursued in this Establishment is based upon the principle of natural and careful cultivation, rather than of constrained exertion—of developing the characteristic capabilities of the children under their care, rendering their studies a pleasure rather than a task.

TERMS, THIRTY GUINEAS PER ANNUM.

The best masters are engaged for French, German, Drawing, Music, Singing, and Deportment.

The School will re-open on MONDAY, the 26th inst.

References:—Rev. G. Legge, LL.D., Rev. J. P. Mursell, and Rev. J. Smedmore, Leicester; Rev. J. Sutcliffe, Ashton-under-Lyne; Mr. Sunderland, Ashton-under-Lyne; and their brothers, Rev. J. G. Miall, Bradford, Rev. G. R. Miall, Ullesthorpe, and Mr. E. Miall, Editor of the *Nonconformist*, Horse-shoe-court, Ludgate-hill.

EDUCATION.

NOTTING-HILL: 13, LADBROKE-TERRACE.

MRS. HEWARD begs to announce to her Friends and the Public, that her Establishment for Young Ladies will re-open on Thursday the 22nd inst.

TERMS.—Forty Guineas per annum, including Board and Instruction in English, French, Drawing, with use of Books, Music, Singing, German, Italian, Harp, Dancing and Deportment, are extras at the usual terms.

References:—Rev. R. Vanghan, D.D., President of Lancashire College, Manchester; Rev. J. Stoughton, Kensington; Rev. J. Sherman, M.A., Surrey Parsonage; Rev. T. Archer, D.D., Hans-place, Chelsea; Rev. T. W. Aveling, Kingsland; Rev. S. Steer, Castle Heddingham, Essex.

TERMS for an ARTICLED PUPIL, for whom there is a vacancy:—For One Year, premium Fifty Guineas; Two Years, Eighty Guineas; or for Three Years, One Hundred Guineas—who will possess the same advantages as the other Pupils, and derive instruction from Masters of the first eminence. Her services will not be required except during the last three months of her residence at the establishment. A respectable situation procured for her on leaving, if required.

Circulars may be obtained of the Rev. T. HEWARD, Notting-hill, London.

CLASSICAL and COMMERCIAL BOARDING-SCHOOL, BLANDFORD, DORSETSHIRE. Conducted by Rev. R. KEYNES and SON.

This Establishment has existed for a term of nearly fifty years. The work of education has, for the last fifteen years, been carried on by the united labour of father and son, whose conscientious attention is directed to the intellectual, moral, and religious improvement of their pupils.

The Winter Vacation will close JANUARY 25. A Prospectus, with testimonials and terms, may be had on application.

CHEYNEY-STREET ACADEMY, BOSTON, LINCOLN-SHIRE.

IN THIS ESTABLISHMENT, under the direction of Mr. G. F. BAYLEY, Member of the Royal College of Preceptors, a superior education is imparted on moderate terms; the studies of the pupils being arranged with a regard to practical utility, and their constant progress secured by a system of energetic and zealous teaching in the most approved plans. The situation is healthy, and the house large and commodious, with apparatus for gymnastic exercises. The domestic arrangements are under the superintendence of the Proprietor's wife, and every solicitude is manifested to combine scholastic advantages with the comforts of home. The most satisfactory references can be furnished. The pupils will re-assemble on MONDAY, the 19th inst. Prospectuses forwarded on application.

Boston, January 7th, 1852.

COLLEGE-HOUSE ACADEMY, SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

Established above FORTY years.

Conducted by Mr. M. THOMSON, of Glasgow University.

THE System comprises the Classics, French, and the usual branches of an English Education. The premises and grounds particularly extensive, situation admirably salubrious, and plans of education such as to promote sound and accurate knowledge. The Pupils are instructed in the essential doctrines and duties of Revealed Truth, and earnest endeavours are made to establish their influence on the heart. DOMESTIC comforts under the immediate attention of Mrs. Thomson. French, Music, and Drawing, by Professionals. TERMS (including Washing), from Twenty-five to Thirty guineas.

Mr. Thomson has the honour to refer to Judge Talfourd, the Rev. J. Sherman, the Rev. J. H. Hinton, and the Rev. J. Young.

The Term commences on the 19th of January.

* * An ASSISTANT wanted.

THE BRIGHTON SCHOOL.

THE arrangements for the CHRISTMAS TERM are as follow:—

The JUNIOR PUPILS will assemble on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11.

The SENIOR PUPILS will assemble on FRIDAY, JANUARY 16.

FRESH PUPILS will join on TUESDAY, JANUARY 20.

An INAUGURAL SERVICE will be held on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, to celebrate the opening of the New School Premises, when the Rev. JOSEPH SORTAIN, A.B., F.R.A.S., will deliver an INTRODUCTORY LECTURE.

ROBERT WINTER, jun., Director.

Clifton-road, Brighton, January, 1852.

PRIMROSE-HILL HOUSE SCHOOL, NEAR COVENTRY.

THIS School was founded in 1848, with a view of putting in practice the following ideas or principles:—

That good habits and right moral feelings and action are the most essential elements in the formation of character, and should form the basis of all education.

That there can be no moral influence where there is not confidence; hence, punishments and appeals to fear should be avoided, a sense of moral obligation excited and nurtured, and government based upon mutual justice, a free concession of natural rights, and paternal Christian intercourse.

That a course of study, extensive in its range, and practical and natural in its arrangement and application, is demanded by the increased intelligence of the present age.

That the highest purpose of education is the harmonious development and cultivation of our whole being, one of the most important essentials to steady educational progress, being a systematic unity of plan and purpose from the beginning to the end of the period of youthful training.

Full Prospectuses, with References, and every needful particular, may be had by applying to Mr. WYLES, the Conductor, or may be seen in the "Monthly Christian Spectator" for January, 1852.

SALISBURY.

MRS. J. W. TODD has THREE VACANCIES

in her SELECT SEMINARY for YOUNG LADIES, the duties of which will be RESUMED on MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 1852. The course of Tuition pursued in this Establishment embraces the entire routine of a thorough English Education—the French, Italian, German, and Latin Languages; Drawing, Painting, Music, and Singing; together with a compendium of Natural and Moral Philosophy, and the general range of modern polite literature. The very limited number received secures to the pupils all the domestic comforts and supervision of home; and no efforts are spared to combine pleasure with their pursuit of knowledge—to render their scholastic duties spontaneous rather than compulsory; and, by assiduous culture of their intellectual and moral powers, to habituate them to the exercise of independent thought and enlightened piety.—Terms, including French and Latin, from 25 to 30 Guineas per annum.

References:—R. Harris, Esq., M.P., Leicester; H. Brown, Esq., M.P., Tewkesbury; Apsey Pellatt, Esq., Staines; Mrs. Clara L. Balfour, Maida-hill, London; the Revs. Dr. Redford, Worcester; Dr. Andrews, Northampton; Thomas Thomas, Pontypool College; F. Trestrail, Secretary to the Baptist Mission; A. M. Stalker, Leeds; J. P. Mursell, Leicester; R. Keynes, Blandford; S. J. Davis, London; T. Winter and G. H. Davis, Bristol; J. Purser, Esq., Rathmines Castle, Dublin; J. Toone, Esq., Salisbury; H. and W. Todd, Esqrs., Dublin.

THE MISSES MIALI'S Boarding and Day School for Young Ladies, Eaglesfield House, Park-place, Higher Broughton, near Manchester.

The Pupils of this Establishment will resume their Studies on TUESDAY, the 20th January.

BOARDING HOUSE.

13, Pancras-lane (one door from Queen-street), Cheapside.

MRS. MILES respectfully informs her friends that she has fitted up her house for the accommodation of Commercial Gentlemen and Visitors, and hopes that the arrangements made for their comfort will ensure a continuance of their favours.

The house is quiet and airy, situated half-way between Bow Church and the Mansion-house, and within a minute's walk of the stands for omnibuses to the Railway Stations and all parts of the Metropolis.

TERMS—Bed & Breakfast, 3s. 6d. per day.

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TO PARENTS.—W. BERDOE confidently invites attention to his very reduced scale of charge for YOUNG GENTLEMEN'S CLOTHING, viz., a first-class SUIT of Extra Superfine Cloth, at the rate of 11d. to 1s. per inch, ACCORDING TO HEIGHT, or for a Boy EIGHT YEARS OLD, Two Guineas, 2s. extra for each additional year; 2nd quality, from 5s. to 10s. the Suit less. A large Stock of Superior OVERCOATS, for Boys of all ages, at from 25s. to 35s. Fancy braided Dresses, &c., in the first style. In EVERY respect, the above are such articles as will insure perfect and permanent satisfaction.

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TAILOR AND TROUSER MAKER,

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BEGS to return his grateful acknowledgments to those gentlemen who have honoured him with their orders during the past year, and, while requesting their continued patronage, would venture also to solicit the favour of their kind recommendation in the circle of their friends. He respectfully assures those whom he has not hitherto had the pleasure of serving, that it is his constant effort to meet the wishes and secure the approbation of his customers in respect to quality, style, and price, and to supply an article of genuine worth, relying on their recognition of his success in these attempts for the hope of permanent support.

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Gas, at its present price, is the most economical light for private dwellings, and Glass its safest and best conductor, admitting of neither deposit nor corrosion. GLASS CHANDELIERS for Gas may be seen, in every variety of form and gradation of price, at APSLEY PELLATT and CO'S. (late Pellatt and Green) Glass Manufactory, Holland-street, Blackfriars-road. No Foreign drops used. Table Glass and China of every description.

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THIS unrivalled production continues to give the same satisfaction as when first introduced by SARL and SONS, ten years ago. From its intrinsic value, and brilliant appearance, it far surpasses all other substitutes for solid silver. A new and magnificent stock has just been completed for the present season, to which public inspection is respectfully invited. It comprises SPOONS and FORKS, CORNER DISHES and COVERS, DISH COVERS, EPERGNEs and CANDELABRA with Beautiful Figures and Classical Designs, TEA and COFFEE EQUIPAGES, CRUET FRAMES, CAKE BASKETS, CANDLESTICKS, SALVERS, TEA TRAYS, DECANTER STANDS, LIQUEUR FRAMES, TEA URNS and KETTLES, SOUP and SAUCE TUREENS, with every article requisite for the Dinner, Tea, or Breakfast Service. Pamphlets, containing drawings and prices of all the articles, gratis, and sent postage free to all parts of the kingdom. Any article may be had separately as a sample.

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Sarl and Sons, 18, Poultry, near the Mansion House.**GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES.**

SARL and SONS, WATCH MANUFACTURERS, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion-house), invite attention to their new and very extensive STOCK of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES. The patterns are of the latest style, and the movements of the most highly finished description. Every make can be had. The following prices will convey an outline of the Stock, combining economy with quality:—

	Gold Cases and Dials.	Silver Cases.
Watches of the Horizontal make, jewelled in four holes, maintaining power, 1st size	£ s. d. 5 10 0	£ s. d. 2 18 0
Ditto, 2nd size	7 10 0	3 3 0
Ditto, 3rd size	8 10 0	3 10 0
Patent lever movements, detached escapements, jewelled in four or six holes, 2nd size	9 9 0	3 18 0
Ditto, with the flat fashionable style, with the most highly-finished movements, jewelled in 10 extra holes, 3rd size	14 14 0	5 18 0

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A pamphlet, containing a list of the prices of the various articles in gold and silver, may be had gratis.—Address,

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(NEAR THE MANSION-HOUSE), LONDON.**THE ENSUING SESSION OF PARLIAMENT AND THE REFORM QUESTION.**

All who are interested in the question of Parliamentary Reform should buy

THE REFORMER'S ALMANACK AND POLITICAL YEAR-BOOK,
For 1852.

Upwards of Ninety Pages for Sixpence.

CONTENTS.

In addition to the usual intelligence common to all Almanacks:—Information for County Court Suitors. The London Exhibitions. A RECORD OF EVENTS IN 1850-51. A List of the Chief Officers of State. THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, the number of the Constituents, their political sentiments, and their votes on leading questions in 1851. THE SESSION OF 1851—Electoral Reform—Financial Reform—Ecclesiastical Reform—Colonial Reform—Free-trade—Miscellaneous—Petitions presented. Abstract of the more important ACTS OF PARLIAMENT passed in 1851. Reformers' Electoral Table. INCOMES OF THE BISHOPS. The National Expenditure. Army and Ordnance Expenditure. The Newspaper Stamp. The Paper Duties. Progress of the FREEDOM OF LAND MOVEMENT. The Population. Diminution of Pauperism. The Great Exhibition. Statistics of Crime. With a variety of interesting and important information on minor topics, compiled from recent Parliamentary Returns.

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"It is, if possible, better than its predecessors, and I hope its circulation will be commensurate with its merits."—*R. Colcland, Esq., M.P.*

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"Your work is a useful hand-book to those who travel toward reform."—*Colonel Thompson, M.P.*

"In it may be found a careful chronicle of the progress of various departments of reform during the past year; and a mass of statistical and other information, which must render it a valuable addition of value to the reforming politician—whether in public or private life."—*Daily News.*

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"The whole forms a volume eminently worthy of being the text-book of reformers in Church and State, and to such we cordially recommend it."—*Eclectic Review.*

"The *Reformer's Almanack and Political Year-book* contains a summary of the session of 1851, and of the acts passed therein, with other matter dear to politicians."—*Examiner.*

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"This excellently-arranged almanack deserves commendation for the very copious amount of political information which is appended to it."—*Weekly News.*

The *Reformer's Almanack*, which all our readers should present at least to themselves, if not to others. It contains a mass of information closely packed, and well arranged, and will be very useful as an index to the history of last year."—*Leader.*

"A very valuable compilation, full of important details."—*Westday Times.*

"One of the most useful of the cheap almanacks, pointing out the results of legislation during the past session, and replete

with information on political and social topics of interest to the reformer."—*Bristol Mercury.*

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"On the whole, a cheaper or more useful text-book than *The Reformer's Almanack* it would be difficult to name."—*Edinburgh News.*

"Though this is called *The Reformer's Almanack*, and has evidently been compiled for the express use of those who desire to reform abuses in Church and State, to economize the resources of the kingdom, and to make as much progress in every useful work as is consistent with safety; yet it is calculated to be extremely serviceable to all classes of politicians. It is impossible to over-estimate the care and labour that have been bestowed in arranging the vast mass of information which it contains, so as to render such information easy of reference, and to bring matters that have important practical bearings side by side with each other."—*Liverpool Times.*

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And instant relief and a rapid cure of

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The most wonderful cures of Asthma and Consumption, Coughs, Colds, and all Disorders of the Breath and Lungs, are everywhere performed by this extraordinary remedy.

SURPRISING CURE OF ASTHMA OF TEN YEARS' STANDING.

Sir,—I have for the last ten years been afflicted with an asthma, during which time I have tried every known remedy, and have had the best medical advice possible for me to get. In fact, I have spent from £40 to £50 on medical advice alone, and all to no avail; and I gave up all hopes of ever having the disease removed, until I was recommended to try Dr. Locock's Wafers. I purchased two small boxes and one large one, three months since, by which I am now perfectly cured, and beg to return many thanks, &c.

(Signed) HENRY BISHTON.

To Mr. John J. Williams, Chemist, Tipton.

From the Author of the "Narrative of the Second Sikh War."

June 25, 1851.

Sir,—I had long suffered from a deep-seated cough when Providence placed in my way a box of your Pulmonic Wafers. I experienced instantaneous relief, and have such a high estimate of their efficacy, that I firmly believe they would effect the cure of the most consumptive person. You may make any use you please of this letter.

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To GROCERS AND PUBLIC SPINNERS they are invaluable, as in a few hours they remove all hoarseness, and wonderfully increase the power and flexibility of the voice.

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A mild and gentle Aperient Medicine, having a most agreeable taste, and of great efficacy for regulating the secretions and correcting the action of the Stomach and Liver. Price 1s. 1d., 2s. 6d., and 11s. per box. /Also,

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Milled Cloths, commencing at £1 16 0
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All sizes of the before-named kept ready for immediate wear.

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Same side of the way as the Royal Exchange.

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AT this festive period of the year, when friends and lovers assemble at the social board, or join the mazes of the dance, a more than usual anxiety is created for

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and the following unrivalled discoveries for the TOILET are called into increased requisition—namely,—

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for creating and sustaining a luxuriant head of hair;

ROWLAND'S KALYDOR,

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A fragrant and spirituous Perfume, an essential accompaniment to places of public amusement, and crowded assemblies.

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BEWARE OF SPURIOUS IMITATIONS.

The only Genuine of each bears the name of "ROWLANDS" preceding that of the article on the wrapper or label, with their Signature at the foot, in Red Ink, thus—

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Sold by them at 20, Hatton-garden, London, and by Chemists and Perfumers.

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Is an Institution peculiarly adapted to afford provisions for families. It is a PURELY MUTUAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY. The WHOLE PROFITS are allocated every THREE YEARS amongst Policies of more than five years' duration. No part is, as in the case of a Proprietary Company, diverted from those who are Assured and paid away to Shareholders. The additions which have already been made to Policies afford the clearest evidence of the prosperity of the Institution, and the great advantages derived by its Members.

Since the Society was instituted in 1831, the additions to Policies have been at the rate of Two Pounds per Cent. per Annum, not only on the sums Assured, but also on all the additions accumulated from time to time, so that the Bonus of Two Pounds per Cent. declared at 1st March, 1850, was equal to about TWO POUNDS FOURTEEN SHILLINGS PER CENT. per Annum on the sums originally assured by the earlier Policies.

The total additions to Policies made at, and preceding, 1st March, 1850, amounted to FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIVE POUNDS.

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ON A POLICY FOR £1,000, dated 1st March, 1832, £1486 7s. 8d. will be payable, if it become a claim, during the current year, after payment of this year's Premium. This is an addition of nearly FORTY-NINE per Cent. on the SUM ASSURED. Supposing such a Policy to have been effected at the age of Thirty, the additions, if now applied in reduction of the future Premium, would reduce the Premium from £25 10s. 10d. to £8 15s. 8d., being Seventeen Shillings and Sixpence, or Seven-eighths of a Pound per Cent. only on the sum Assured; and even this small payment must be reduced every THREE YEARS during the subsistence of the Policy, and may not only ultimately be extinguished, but leave further additions to be afterwards made to the Policy.

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1. They may be added to the sum payable at death;
2. They may be commuted into a present payment; or,
3. They may be applied in reduction of the future Premiums.

AMOUNT ASSURED £3,600,000

ANNUAL REVENUE 130,000

ACCUMULATED FUND 636,000

Tables of Rates, and Forms of Proposal, may be had (free) on application at the Society's Offices.

WILLIAM COOK, Agent.

* Medical References paid by the Society.

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THE

Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

VOL. XII.—NEW SERIES, No. 322.]

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ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

THEORY REDUCED TO LAW.

In the present dearth of topics ordinarily assigned by us to this department of our paper, our readers will, perhaps, hold us justified in substituting an educational for an ecclesiastical article. The two subjects, taking current events into account, are much nearer akin than may, at first sight, appear. The deputations which have recently waited upon the Prime Minister in relation to the two Manchester schemes of National Education, the curious replies of his lordship to the statements placed before him by each, and the general discussions which have been thereby elicited from the public press, thrust the general question upon our notice under circumstances which almost preclude the possibility of keeping silence. It is not our present intention, however, to deal with the matter on abstract grounds. We have before us, "for circulation among the members of the general council" of the National School Association, a printed copy of "a Bill to establish Free Schools, in England and Wales, for secular instruction." Upon the provisions of this bill we wish to make a few observations.

The theoretical is here reduced to the practical. We congratulate ourselves upon the change. It is far more satisfactory to grapple with a proposed course of policy when it has condensed into the definite form of a projected law, than when diffused through a multiplicity of loose statements, questionable arguments, and rapid declamations. We now know what the conductors of the National School Association are supposed to be agreed upon, for the present at least—and if in many respects this lately-acquired knowledge differs very essentially from the expectations awakened in us by foregoing and oft-repeated professions, we are tempted to surmise that it has been found to be a much easier thing to magnify the special advantages of a general scheme of education, than to put it into such shape as would give to it even a momentary chance of appearing workable.

The Bill before us provides, as its central power, for the appointment by her Majesty of a Board of Education, to consist of three persons, of whom one is to be President, neither of whom is to have a seat in Parliament, to whom will be committed the superintendence of the execution of the act. This Board it is competent for her Majesty to reduce, if she pleases, to a single member, who will thereupon become the supreme, and, to a considerable extent, despotic officer, in relation to all matters pertaining to the education of the people of this country. The Board may appoint a secretary, clerks, and messengers, and also school inspectors—may establish normal schools, and apprentice pupil teachers—may set up and support schools for the deaf, the dumb, the blind, and the infirm of mind—and the Consolidated Fund is to be charged with the payment of the salaries of the Board, its officers, its inspectors, its normal schoolmasters and mistresses, its apprentices, and all the travelling and other expenses duly incurred by the inspectors in the execution of their duties.

The whole of England and Wales is then to be divided by the authority of this Board into school districts, which may consist of "a city, or borough, or township, or extra-parochial place, or poor-law union, or any other district or division, or of any part or parts thereof, or of any combination of the same, as may be thought desirable," and immediately upon the constitution of such district, and the advertisement of it in the *London Gazette*, the Board is to direct the presiding authority to call upon the rate-payers for the election of a school committee, after the manner in which poor-law guardians are now elected—namely, by leaving voting papers at the houses of the rate-payers, and collecting them again after a specified interval. The committee thus selected is to be a body corporate for educational purposes, and is to be vested with power to make, year by year, one or more school-rates, to levy and collect them by the agency of the overseers, and to expend them either in the purchase of existing school premises, the erection or enlargement of additional schools and residences for masters and teachers, the payment of a secretary and treasurer for each district, and of graduated salaries, within a certain limit, of the masters, mistresses, and teachers. They are also to have authority to lay down rules for the management of the schools, for the general course of instruction to be adopted, the selection of books and publications to be used, and such other matters as are not inconsistent with the provisions of the bill.

The schools, male and female, to be established in each district, are to be day schools, evening schools, infant schools, and industrial schools, in the last of which, the scholars, who are to consist of "young poor persons, who have no means of subsistence, except by begging or crime," are to be supplied, during the day, with food and shelter. Inasmuch, however, as it seems to be suspected that even the advantages held out by these establishments may fail of attracting towards them the requisite number of scholars, the committee may employ visitors, and remunerate them for their services, to communicate with parents, and induce them to send their children to the appropriate school of the district. In none of these schools is "doctrinal religion" to be taught, but certain hours may be set apart during which the school will be closed, for the purpose of affording to the scholars the opportunity of attending the instructions of teachers of religion.

The trustees or managers of existing schools, in which "doctrinal religion or sectarian opinions" are taught, may be constituted "free schools," and continue under the management of their respective managers and trustees, on condition that, between certain hours in the morning and in the afternoon, no inculcation of doctrinal religion or sectarian opinions shall take place, and to such schools the district committee is authorized to pay out of the school-rate, a certain sum per week, for each scholar receiving secular instruction.

Such are the main features of this "bill to establish free-schools in England and Wales for secular instruction." Let us look now at its probable working. The first thing that strikes us as, the cool abandonment by the National School Association of the exclusively secular character of the education to be paid for, and the provision made for absorbing into the system all existing schools of a professedly sectarian constitution. The contrivance resorted to for saving the nominal consistency of the Association, can impose upon no one. The effect will be as follows:—Every denominational school, the managers of which are not prevented by religious scruples from availing themselves of compulsory means for its support, will be open to the approach of the district committee, who will be empowered, by means of public money, to buy up the premises, to pay outstanding debts, to relieve of all pecuniary difficulties, and to furnish a future income to the master or mistress, leaving the managers in full possession of all the powers they previously enjoyed, with this exception only—that between certain specified hours, morning and evening, doctrinal religious instruction will not be permitted.

Thus, every Church of England school may teach the Church Catechism daily, by simply prefixing an additional hour for school attendance to the interval fixed upon by the district committee for secular instruction exclusively. Can any one for a moment doubt that this is precisely what the clergy of the Establishment would accept with eager satisfaction? Can any one be blind to the fact, that it would arm them with a mighty additional power? Is it not evident, at a glance, that throughout the rural districts, this bill would put the education of the people very nearly, if not altogether, under the exclusive management of the State priesthood? And all this is to be effected under the flimsy guise of providing out of school-rates for secular instruction only.

The next feature of the bill that strikes one, is the large power vested in the district committee. It may lay as many rates as it pleases—it may make them prospective or retrospective. It may determine the number and the position of the schools to be supported—it may appoint and dismiss masters, mistresses, and teachers—decide upon the general course of instruction to be given—admit or exclude school-books at its pleasure. Now, take almost any imaginable district, except those which may be contained in populous places, and we will venture to assert that it will not contain within it any half-dozen gentlemen to whom such powers can be safely entrusted, and who will not be tempted to use them for personal or party purposes. It is as though the bill was framed for the purpose of affording facility for the perpetration of jobs, and for turning to account, for political ends, extensive and powerful machinery not otherwise available.

Lastly, for we are already outrunning our space, the bill is another embodiment of the encroaching doctrines of communism. Here are certain classes to be instructed—some even to be fed and sheltered—at the expense of the community, at whose expense also visitors are to be employed in persuading ignorant or reluctant parents to do their duty. Now, in all sobriety, we beg to ask where is the system to stop? Where are we to draw the line? Is the public to take upon itself the performance of every duty, the neglect of which by individuals entails mischief upon itself? Let the workpeople of this country obtain predominant political power, and if they do not push the doctrine much further than our political economists would approve, it will not be for want of the stimulus supplied to them by the proceedings of these national educationists. We confess we view with alarm the obvious tendency of the age in this direction; and we anticipate, with gloomy forebodings, that the retribution which will overtake our Free-traders for the abandonment of their own principles as applicable to education, will be the repetition of their blunder by others less cautious than themselves, to the accomplishment of ends which, however much to be desired, can only be safely reached by means of those general laws which Providence has ordained for the regulation of society.

THE TWO PRIMATES AND THE ROYAL SUPREMACY.

The following "important correspondence" appears in the *Times* of yesterday:—

I.—LETTER TO THE PRIMATE ENCLOSING THE DECLARATION.

31, Charterhouse-square, Dec. 31, 1851.

My Dear Lord Archbishop,—I am requested by the "Supremacy and Gorham Cause Declaration Committee" to forward to your Grace the enclosed "Declaration," which has now been signed by 3,262 of the clergy (not including seven names which we have been unable to verify); among whom are seven deans, twelve archdeacons, and a large number of the dignitaries of the Church throughout the kingdom.

These signatures have been obtained, not by means of application sent to all the clergy, but by private correspondence with persons known to the committee, and a few advertisements in the newspapers; consequently, the number so obtained cannot be considered as at all an adequate representation of that portion of the clergy who would have signed the "Declaration" if it had been sent to the whole body; and, further, the answers which we have received show that it represents but a fraction of those who cordially agree with the views

stated in the "Declaration," a very large number of the clergy being reluctant, from failing to recognise its necessity, and from other causes, to make any public movement in the matter. With a feeling of reluctance to issue such declarations needlessly the committee cordially sympathize; nor was it till some time had elapsed after the delivery of the Gorham judgment that it was determined to offer the clergy an opportunity of publicly testifying their sense of its value. But circumstances, to which it is unnecessary further to allude, seemed to render it a duty incumbent upon them to make known their sentiments on the subject, not only to disabuse the public mind of the false impression which it had been taught to entertain respecting their views in the matter, but also to discountenance any attempt that might be made to set aside in practice a judgment solemnly pronounced by the ultimate court of appeal in matters ecclesiastical; and for these purposes the names appended to the enclosed "Declaration" appear to the committee to be amply sufficient, coming as they do from every diocese, and from all parts of the kingdom, and amounting, probably, to about one-fourth part of the officiating clergy, especially when it is recollected that a recent declaration of a contrary kind, which was sent to every individual throughout the whole body of the clergy, and also to the lay members of the universities, obtained, as is well known, less than 1,800 signatures, lay and clerical together.

I am, my dear Lord Archbishop,
Your Grace's obliged and faithful servant,
W. GOODE.

II.—THE DECLARATION ENCLOSED.

A Declaration, by the undersigned Clergy of the Church of England, in support of the Royal Supremacy in things Ecclesiastical, and of the wisdom and authority of the Judgment emanating from its recent exercise.

We, the undersigned clergy of the Church of England, viewing with surprise and concern the attempts made by parties holding office in the Church to invalidate and nullify the judgment recently delivered by the Sovereign, as "supreme governor of this realm, as well in all spiritual or ecclesiastical things or causes as temporal," by the advice of the Privy Council and the primates of the Church, in the case of "Gorham v. the Bishop of Exeter," hereby testify our thankfulness for the judgment so delivered, and feel ourselves called upon, under present circumstances (whether holding or not the view which called forth the judgment), humbly to state our conviction that it was a wise and just sentence, in accordance with the principles of the Church of England.

And we respectfully, but firmly, protest against any attempt, from whatever quarter it may proceed, to bring into contempt a judgment so issued, and to charge with false teaching and discredit with their flocks those whose doctrine has been pronounced by that judgment to be "not contrary or repugnant to the declared doctrine of the Church of England."

Such attempts we hold to be equivalent to the enforcement of a standard of doctrine in our Church, by unauthorized individuals, opposed to that established by its supreme authority; and, consequently, to be irreconcilable with the first principles of all Church polity, and necessarily to lead to a state of disorder, strife, and confusion in the Church.

III.—REPLY OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

Addington, Jan. 2.
My dear Sir,—I have much satisfaction in receiving the declaration which you have forwarded to me from so numerous a body of clergy upon a subject which I sincerely hope may no longer be permitted to disturb the peace of our Church.

There are many questions in theology upon which Christians may differ without reproach to themselves or injury to others. From the Reformation until the present time, numbers of our clergy have subscribed the same articles, have used the same formularies, have ministered in the same churches, whose sentiments, if they had been obliged to state them with logical precision, would have been found to vary, more or less, from each other, both with regard to regeneration and to the effect of infant baptism. But this difference has not prevented their harmonious co-operation, or impaired their usefulness; and I should have been seriously grieved if the period of my archiepiscopacy had been chosen as the period when freedom of opinion, within the reasonable limits hitherto deemed allowable, was, for the first time, denied to our clergy in a case where it is not denied them by the word of God or the declared doctrine of the Church of England.

I remain, my dear Sir, very faithfully yours,
Rev. William Goode. J. B. CANTUAR.

IV.—REPLY OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK.

Bishopthorpe, York, January 5.
My dear Sir,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of the Declaration, and of your letter which accompanied it.

I am glad to find such a large number of the clergy agree in regarding "the judgment" alluded to as "a wise and just sentence, in accordance with the principles of the Church of England."

Concurring entirely in that opinion, I would only add the expression of my sincere hope that it may be considered by all parties as a final settlement of the point in dispute, and thus tend to promote that peace and harmony among ourselves which the times and the circumstances of the Church require.

I am, my dear Sir, your faithful servant,
The Rev. W. Goode. T. EBOR.

ANTI-STATE-CHURCH MEETINGS.—The series of monthly meetings, the first of which is announced for to-morrow night, has already been adverted to by us. We may now state that the tour by the Rev. J. R. Campbell, of Edinburgh, and Mr. Kingsley, to commence on Tuesday next, will comprise meetings at the following towns—Darlington (20th), Halifax (21st), Wakefield (22nd), Hull (23rd), Sheffield (26th), Leeds (27th), York (28th). Mr. Kingsley was announced to lecture in the early part of this week at Banbury, Brill, and Thame, and on Monday is to lecture at Rotherham. The Secretary and the Rev. J. Hiron are to attend a meeting at Luton, next Wednesday, and arrangements for several other meetings and lectures are in progress.

ANTI-STATE-CHURCHISM IN THE AUSTRALIAS.

Resistance to the measures of the Imperial Government for fastening religious establishments upon the Australian Colonies, threatens to become as decided as resistance to convict immigration. Recent advices from Adelaide state that the result of the elections has been such a demonstration on the part of the people of the abhorrence in which they hold the State grant for religion, that there is no chance of a repetition of such grants. A subsequent arrival states that the New Legislative Council met in September, and that one of its first acts was to reject any further "Church grants." The consequence of this decisive resolution is, that the churches of England and Rome, as well as the Wesleyans, in the colony, will have to depend for the future upon their own congregations. New South Wales and Port Phillip, it is expected, will follow the example—an anticipation strengthened, in the one case, by the return of Dr. Lang to the new Legislative Council of the former colony at the head of the poll, immediately after the termination of his four months' imprisonment for alleged libel; and of Sir G. Fife Angus, Esq., formerly of Newcastle.

The Wesleyans are taking energetic measures to separate themselves from the unholy alliance with Episcopacy and Romanism. The Wesleyans of South Australia have begun to discover the unscripturalness, and mischievous effects, of governmental meddling with religion, and have met in large numbers to protest against it. The second of this series of meetings was held at Adelaide, on June 6th. The Chairman, remarking upon an attempt which had been made to hold them up as enemies to Wesleyan Methodism, because they were hostile to Government grants, said, it was because they loved Methodism, were unwilling to see its usefulness impaired, and wished to see it flourish in all its ancient vigour, they were opposed to these grants. One of the speakers (Mr. Reynolds), stated that Mr. Boyce, the general superintendent at Sidney, had prevailed upon the opposing quarterly meeting to accept the grant, by the threat that unless it was accepted, he should withhold the £300 from the contingent fund, which was to be distributed in South Australia. The people, however, were almost unanimous in repudiating it. Such had been the force of truth on that very quarterly meeting, that out of the fifteen who voted for the grant seven had since come round to the Voluntary principle. Of eight who voted against the grant, one had gone over to the advocates for State aid; and two that were neutral had declared against the grant. Statistics proved the impolicy of accepting it. It injuriously affected the finances of the society. In 1846, 460 members raised £1,250, and in 1850, 951 members raised £999 6s. 8d. They had, in 1845, three ministers among them, and the contributions amounted to about 55s. per member. Since the reception of the grant, though their members had multiplied, yet the average contributions have become gradually less and less, so that now they are about sixteen shillings each—not one-third of what they used to be! It was proposed:—"That considering the injurious tendency of the State grant to the Methodist body, this meeting urges upon all Methodist electors the necessity of securing the return of such candidates only to the new council as are opposed to the grant in aid of religion." The resolution was carried unanimously.

Another great meeting was held on the 11th of August, in the Exchange, Adelaide, of parties opposed to the grant; the principal movers in the affair being the leading Wesleyans in South and North Adelaide, and the surrounding districts, several of the leading members of other denominations, and the local preachers recently expelled from the Wesleyan body for the part taken by them on this question in opposition to the travelling preachers. The resolutions passed were in harmony with the above, and were severally voted unanimously.

"STEALING" CHURCH ACCOMMODATION.—At last week's meeting of the Edinburgh Town-council, Mr. Gray stated that large numbers of the wealthier portion of the community occupied seats in the city churches without paying for them. Professor Dick designated such parties as being guilty of dishonesty and of positive theft. Bailie Dick spoke to order. The Lord Provost considered the term dishonest to be perfectly legitimate; but that of theft he thought was wrong in regard to its not being grammatically correct, for theft implied taking away something, which these people did not [a laugh]. Professor Dick said, Shakspeare used the term in regard to filching a person's good name, and he considered it, therefore, neither out of order nor inappropriate [a laugh]. These people stole a little gospel, or rather, the accommodation that enabled them to get it; and he held that they ought to be made to pay for it. The city chamberlain was instructed to prepare a report on the subject.

MR. BENNETT AND THE CLERGY OF FROME.—The clergy and laity of Frome have forwarded a copy of their protest against the nomination of Mr. Bennett, to the Bishop of Bath and Wells, with the curt reply of the Marchioness of Bath, extracts from Mr. Bennett's correspondence with the Bishop of London, and an address to his lordship, setting forth the grounds of their protest. They might just as well, we imagine, were Frome in the diocese of Exeter, have addressed their complaint to Bishop Phillips.

THE LATE RECTOR OF CUMBERWORTH.—Mr. Geo. Bird, late rector of Cumberworth, gave the second of his intended course of Monday-night lectures upon the genuine gospel, in the Music-hall of our

town, this week. Its object was to point out the direct and distinctive efficacy and virtue of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, as forming one essential part of the gospel scheme. The audience was larger than on the former occasion, and interest seemed to be taken both in the lecture and the answers to questions, which followed. Mr. Bird afterwards stated his reasons for resigning the rectory of Cumberworth to have been the following:—"A series of scandalous outrages upon church discipline occurred, such as the churchwarden coming regularly to the Lord's supper whilst notorious for inebriety, drunkenness, &c.; women of disreputable character coming to stand as godmothers; and suicides, infidels, &c., brought to have the Church burial-service read over them, contrary to the rubric, and the oath of ministers; infidels and drunkards, leaders of the singing, cursing, and swearing in the churchyard on the Lord's-day; scandalous disorders during worship. These and other like painful experiences had forced upon his mind a sense of his responsibility as a minister. When, however, he attempted to bring the discipline to the point of common decency, at any rate, he found himself opposed by the very authorities who ought to have given him their support. The churchwarden, the archdeacon, the Bishop of Ripon, all opposed him. Within a recent period non-resident, infidel, socialist, bankrupt, drunken, and licentious clergymen had officiated in the rectory of Cumberworth; but when a minister who preached sound and evangelical doctrine, and was of irreproachable moral character, attempted to check the above-mentioned scandals, (said Mr. Bird,) the bishop threatened him with prosecution in the ecclesiastical court, which would of course have ruined him with expenses, even if he had gained the suit. A crowd, with the churchwardens at their head, had assembled before the morning service on the Lord's-day, for the purpose of seizing him on his way to his own chapel, and not only cursed him, but cursed the Bible also, amidst a church-yard full of rabble. Finding, therefore, apparently, that he might commit any sin with impunity, but would not be permitted to act agreeably to his conscience, he felt compelled to resign his rectory into the hands of the patron, who was also his godfather, Thomas Wentworth Beaumont, Esq., of Bretton Hall. Indeed, the only way in which he could account for such extraordinary inconsistencies on the part of ecclesiastical authorities, was the circumstance that, in the way of large livings, pluralities, simoniacal sales, princely episcopal fines, &c., some of the bishops and clergy had come to look upon their office as minister rather in the light of a respectable profession before the world—a genteel money trade—than as a spiritual agency and trust for the good of souls. It certainly could not be said that his (Mr. B.'s) object was money. He had thrown up his benefice when he had nothing else to depend upon, in a worldly sense; and if Divine Providence had not subsequently raised up for him friends among perfect strangers, who sympathized with his principles, he might have been reduced to a state of destitution, simply because he would not wrong his conscience as an appointed minister of the gospel.—*Leeds Mercury.*

"THE BISHOP OF LONDON AT LIMHOUSE CHURCH."—This is the title of a smart letter, issued by the Anti-state-church Association, in which the bishop's defence of church-rates is shown to be fallacious, and which cleverly reviews his proceedings in ecclesiastical matters in connexion with his strictures on the non-ratepaying inhabitants of Limehouse. We make two extracts, illustrating the general character of the tract. One is from the argument relative to church-rates; the other is a personal hit:—

Some years ago there was one Joe Smith, who said he had found, as guided by an angel, some engraved plates, which contained a revelation from God; and these plates, according to the same witness, have been transcribed for the benefit of your lordship and of all mankind, the transcript being the Book of Mormon. Your lordship is aware that Joe Smith did not produce the plates, and is generally esteemed an impostor and a liar. Now, my lord, I have no wish to push the analogy beyond the limits of courtesy, but would remind you that the plates have not yet been produced on which it is written that "every owner of real property agreed to tax his estate for ever with the sum of money which should be required to sustain the fabrics and provide for the services of the national church in his parish." I am not wholly unacquainted with the writings of Hume, and Mackintosh, and Macaulay, and Hallam, and Sharon Turner; I have dipped into Blackstone's Commentaries, and Burn's Justice, and Burn's Ecclesiastical Law; but have never been fortunate enough to meet with the record of any one owner of property having agreed to do that, which you affirm that every owner of real property agreed to do. It may seem presumptuous in me, an obscure person, to call in question the dictum of the "Right Rev. Father in God, Charles James, by Divine permission, Lord Bishop of London;" nevertheless, I cannot help thinking the statement in question to be as gross, I do not say as wilful, a misstatement as was ever uttered by Joe Smith.

But the interests of my clients, the parishioners of Limehouse, require me to come a little farther down the stream of time, and to call up to your view the notorious Ecclesiastical Commission. At its disposal were large sums saved out of the revenues of the Church. These sums were appropriated, chiefly, not to the public good, though to the public they belonged; not even to the increase of poor livings and the building of churches for the thousands over whom your lordship sighs, as being "without the Church's ordinances and means of grace"—but to the erection or adornment of episcopal palaces. I do not deny that the appropriation was legal, but was it equitable? The irrepressible indignation of the whole people has long since given the reply. Your lordship knows who were the members of that commission; and you know, too, that while as a commis-

sioner you thought £10,000 quite a sufficient income for a future bishop of London, you continue annually to pocket many thousands more; and yet, knowing these facts, you have, nevertheless, felt yourself at liberty to reprove the parishioners of Limehouse, because they have not voted more than £1,500 as a church-rate. Your lordship is not the first man in a long garment who has strained at a gnat and swallowed a camel.

INSTANCE OF CLERICAL INTOLERANCE.—In one of the parishes of this town, the following incident recently occurred. A worthy Dissenting minister in the course of his duties, visited a woman in a humble walk of life, and left with her a tract on the "Origin of Infant Baptism." Shortly after his visit the curate of the parish called, and seeing the tract, bearing such an heretical title, took it up, and, in a fit of clerical rage, tore it to pieces.—*Newcastle Journal*.

CHURCH-RATE DEFEATED IN SHOREDITCH.—On Friday, at the close of a poll on the amount of a poor-rate for the parish of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, a penny rate for the repairs of the parish church was proposed and seconded. The circulation of a few handbills had secured the attendance of a number of Dissenters and Radicals, resolved to defeat this imposition; and truly, says a correspondent, "Mother Church had a taste of their quality." Mr. Bingley proposed an adjournment of the question for six months; but this was resisted as an evasion; and another amendment, refusing the rate, moved by a young working man named Walker, in an energetic speech, and seconded by Mr. Bagges, was carried triumphantly. A penny rate would have yielded nearly £1,000 per quarter; there are 120,000 inhabitants in this immense parish.

THE SEARCH FOR SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.—Sir R. I. Murchison has published a letter relative to Lieut. Pim's projected expedition, in which he states that a short time since he received a letter from that officer informing him that "the Russian geographers, and particularly the explorers of Northern Siberia, with whom he had been put into communication, were opposed to a plan which, from their experience and acquaintance with the condition of the regions to be travelled over, they looked upon as impracticable; but that he still hoped to overcome all objections, and to have it in his power to risk his life in the good cause." Sir Roderick adds, that he has since "received distinct information, through Baron de Brunnow, that the Imperial Government, after having taken the liveliest interest in this as in every former effort to rescue the missing expedition, had satisfied itself on the unanimous report of the persons who had most studied the subject, that the execution of the plan which the noble and courageous devotion of Lieut. Pim had led him to conceive, was opposed by insurmountable obstacles. Under these circumstances, the Emperor could not consent to allow the life of a British officer to be perilled in vain; but that still, being desirous of doing everything which might be possible, the Imperial Government had placed our countryman in communication with M. Baer and M. Middendorf—the one the explorer of Nova Zembla, the other of Northern and Eastern Siberia—in the hope that by some other plan additional chances might be obtained of procuring the desired tidings.

THE LIVERPOOL COUNTY COURT.—Mr. Ramshay has caused a notice to be served on the treasurer of the County Court, prohibiting him, at his peril, from paying to the new Judge his quarter's salary, which is now due, and another notice on Mr. Pollock himself, prohibiting him from receiving it. He has also served notice on the Earl of Carlisle, that he intends, on an early day in the ensuing term, to apply to the Court of Queen's Bench for a *quo warranto* to restrain Mr. Pollock from acting.—*Liverpool Courier*.

"FAST" LIFE AT OXFORD.—The Insolvent Debtors' Court was occupied two days last week with the case of Edward Griffin, a cadet in the Austrian service in Hungary, applied under the Protection Act. On his examination by Mr. Commissioner Phillips, he stated that his father had paid £1,700 of debts contracted whilst he was at Oxford, and the parties now in his schedule had omitted to send in their accounts, or they would have been paid. His father had also made him an allowance of £300 per annum during the three years he was in Oxford, having entered in 1843, when he was nineteen. There were people who gave him credit, and he was led away. He went "too fast," as it was called. Mr. Sargood said it was his own fault. Mr. Commissioner Phillips thought it was not his own fault. It was the system of credit at that place. He had contemplated the schedules of Oxford debts with horror. He was quite amazed that the heads of the colleges had not stopped the system. Since he had had the first case before him, he had heard of eight or nine instances of clergymen in the Church of England who were now struggling to pay debts contracted in their minority. It was high time there was some enactment on the subject. The insolvent, in answer to further questions, said his father was a clergyman with an income of about £1,000 a year. He was the only son, and there were three daughters. It seemed to him (Mr. Commissioner Phillips) that young men went to Oxford to get initiated into debt—that seemed to be the education they got at Oxford. A creditor applied to be assignee. He was an Oxford creditor, and had lent money. He lent money at thirty per cent. His Honour thought a person lending money at thirty per cent. was not a person to be appointed assignee.

RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

NOTTINGHAM.—The retirement of the venerable Rev. J. Gilbert from public life and the pastorate of the Independent church meeting at Friar-lane chapel, has been marked by his hearers and friends with the presentation of a purse containing £220, and of a mahogany secretary, in the inside of which is to be affixed a silver plate, and upon it engraved a suitable inscription. The presentation was made at a meeting held on the last Monday in December. The Mayor, W. Felkin, Esq., presided. Indisposition prevented the attendance of the venerable and reverend gentleman. He was, however, worthily represented; the whole of his family, Mrs. Gilbert and seven sons and daughters, being present. The Chairman read several communications expressive of esteem for Mr. Gilbert and sympathy for the congregation at the loss they were sustaining. Among these were letters from the County Association (enclosing a resolution), the Rev. J. A. James, of Birmingham, the Rev. Dr. Alliot, the Rev. S. Lewin, &c. Mr. Josiah Gilbert expressed his regret that his father, through infirmity as well as age, could not be present to sustain the grateful burden of kindness, sympathy, and expressions of attachment which were now pressed upon him; and read a letter of affectionate acknowledgment and farewell. The Rev. J. Edwards, Baptist minister, alluded in feeling terms to the personal kindness Mr. Gilbert had manifested towards him, from the time that he first came to Nottingham, a stranger, upwards of twenty years ago. When it was resolved some years ago to hold a monthly ministerial meeting and united service, Mr. Gilbert entered into the design most cordially. His wide range of knowledge, his judicious estimate of passing events, his acquaintance with all sorts of authors, both ancient and modern, his rich stores of biblical and theological learning, gave a deep interest to those reunions. The retirement of Mr. Gilbert might be considered as a great public loss, when they remembered his advocacy of liberal principles. In fact, he had exerted a very material influence in informing the public mind of the midland counties. R. Morley, Esq., handed to the chairman a resolution passed at the annual church meeting in connexion with the Castle-gate chapel, declaring their hearty interest and sympathy in this tribute of respect to Mr. Gilbert. Mr. N. Dunn alluded to the fact, that three Unitarian ministers had acknowledged a change in their principles from reading Mr. Gilbert's work on the "Atonement." Mr. W. Bell (Wesleyan) stated, that at the commencement of his religious career, he was troubled with sceptical views, and never derived permanent relief till he heard Mr. Gilbert's lectures against Infidelity twenty or twenty-one years ago. Addresses were also delivered by Mr. Alderman Heard, Mr. E. Hart, Mr. Alderman Herbert, and the Rev. John Wild.

CALEDONIAN-ROAD CHAPEL.—On Tuesday evening, the 30th ult., between 200 and 300 friends took tea together. The Rev. Ebenezer Davies, the pastor, presided. The Revs. T. W. Jenkyn, D.D., J. Mills, J. Russ; Messrs. John Scoble, E. P. Evans, J. K. Starling, Hugh Owen, and J. Adlard, addressed the meeting. Though the place of worship was only opened in June last, without even a nucleus of a congregation, there is already an excellent attendance, a Sabbath-school of upwards of 400 children, a body of nearly forty teachers, and a church of upwards of fifty members.

HACKNEY.—A social meeting of the members of the church and congregation assembling in Pembury Grove chapel, was held on Wednesday evening last, at which the pastor of the church, the Rev. George Thomson, presided. An encouraging financial account was submitted by Mr. George Gray, the Secretary. Addresses on subjects appropriate to the occasion were delivered by the President; Thomas Thompson, Esq., of Poundsford-park; Revs. J. Kennedy, A.M., S. Luke, S. Davis, and J. R. Stally-brass.

HORNSEY.—On Monday evening, a tea and public meeting was held at No. 11, Maynard-place, Crouch End, Hornsey, introductory to the establishment of a Sunday School, and public worship in connexion with Congregational Dissenters; there being no similar establishment in this vicinity. The Rev. Charles Gilbert, of Barnsbury Chapel, Islington, presided; and the meeting was addressed by the Rev. G. Birch, of Finchley Chapel; the Rev. Wm. Campbell, missionary from Bangalore; and the Rev. B. Hollis, of Islington Chapel.

WETHERFIELD, PENINSULA.—On New-year's day, service was held in the Independent Chapel, at which the Rev. John Sutcliffe, late of Easingwold, was publicly recognised as pastor of the church.

ST. HELIER'S, JERSEY.—The English Independent congregation, under the pastoral care of the Rev. H. J. Chancellor, and lately worshipping in the Temperance Hall, have now purchased the chapel in Grove-place, Upper Don-street, formerly belonging to the English Independents, but more recently to the Unitarians. After necessary repairs, the chapel was opened on Sunday, January 4th, when two discourses were delivered by the Rev. J. Barfitt, F.A.S., of Plymouth, in the absence of Dr. Morison, from ill health. Above half the sum required to free the chapel from debt has been raised among the friends, and they fully anticipate to be able to make up the rest by the 1st of July, with the assistance of friends in England, any donation from whom will be thankfully received by Mr. Chancellor.

PENDLETON, MANCHESTER.—At the annual tea-meeting of the Independent congregation, held on

the first day of the New Year, a token of respect was presented to the minister, the Rev. A. E. Pearce, and Mrs. Pearce, by John Hewitt, and Wright Turner, Esqrs., on behalf of the ladies of the congregation. About nine months since, Mr. Pearce devoted himself laboriously and successfully to the liquidation of a debt of £1,600, and it was deemed appropriate to make some acknowledgment of his efficient services. A subscription was set on foot, and a sufficient amount raised to purchase two handsome gold watches and chains, which were presented at the meeting on the above-named evening.

UDENBOROUGH, DEVON.—On Tuesday, the 30th ult., a commodious and handsome chapel, built in the Gothic style, and capable of seating more than 400 persons, was opened here. Sermons were delivered by Rev. Dr. Harris, and the Rev. Dr. Alliot, President of the Western College, Plymouth. The circumstances in which the building originated, and the fact that Dr. Harris was a native of this village, aided in drawing attention to the services; and ministers and friends from the adjacent towns pressed thither in considerable numbers. Behind the chapel there is an excellent school-room and vestry. The ground on which the erections stand—worth from £80 to £100—is a gift of a liberal Churchman. Dr. Harris has given £100, and Mr. Peek £50. The cost of the building, when completely finished, will amount to about £760.

GURNEY.—The Rev. William Wild, who has for fifteen years been the minister of the Independent congregation meeting in Eldad Chapel, has announced his retirement from that office, on account of impaired health.

LUDLOW.—The Rev. Theophilus Davies, having accepted a unanimous invitation to the pastorate over the church at Newton-le-Willows, intends closing his public labours at Ludlow on the last Sunday in this month, and entering on his new sphere on the 1st of February.

CHESHUNT.—The Rev. George Wright, of Upper Clapton, Middlesex, having supplied the pulpit of Cheshunt-street Chapel, Cheshunt, Herts, during the last three months, has accepted the cordial invitation of the church and congregation to become their pastor.

NANTWICH.—The Rev. Edward J. Sadler, of Wem, has accepted a cordial invitation to become the pastor of the church assembling in the Independent Chapel, Nantwich, Cheshire, and intends to enter upon his stated services there the first Sabbath in February next.

GAINSBOROUGH.—Mr. Henry Lee, of Airedale College, has accepted a unanimous invitation from the church and congregation meeting in the Independent Chapel, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, and proposed entering upon his labours on the 11th instant.

THE HIGH SHERIFF OF NORTHUMBERLAND.—Sir Horace St. Paul, the High Sheriff for the county of Northumberland, incurred the censure of one of her Majesty's Judges of Assize at the late circuit, because he had not expended a few hundred pounds on tawdry show for the gratification of the judges and the mobocracy. Sir Horace has admirably vindicated himself from the charge of meanness, made against him and the gentlemen of the county. He recently offered three hundred guineas for three essays on temperance, and last week wrote thus in reply to a letter asking him to subscribe to the proposed Monumental Window to the memory of the late Duke of Northumberland:—

I regret that I cannot accede to your request, not approving of such a frail and unprofitable work, devoid of any temporal or spiritual benefit to those whose welfare was ever an object of solicitude to the heart of him whose memory you seek to honour.

Surely no monument, made with hands, can more beautifully or effectively perpetuate his worth than your own church, which he built and endowed; whose walls (like the cathedral of the same name) seem to say for themselves—

Si monumentum queris, circumspecte.

Let the money subscribed be vested in Trustees, who shall annually expend the interest in supplying Bibles to the poor of Northumberland. One thousand pounds thus subscribed would give full three hundred Bibles each year to the poor of the county in perpetuity; thus raising a heaven-directed monument, enduring through generations yet unborn, but ever fresh with the warmest Christian sympathies towards him from whose piety it sprang.

I will gladly contribute my fifty pounds to the above purpose; and should others wish to join me, I shall be happy to receive their amounts, paid to my credit into the Newcastle Branch Bank of England, and I will undertake all the subsequent arrangements.

I am, reverend and dear Sir, yours faithfully,
HORACE ST. PAUL.

To the Rev. Charles Charlton, Alnwick.

CANINE REIGN OF TERROR.—A mad dog has held quite a reign of terror for ten days at Gloucester. He bit a number of other dogs, which were killed; and four persons were in the Infirmary suffering from dangerous bites. The brute managed to escape, and the town-council offered a reward of £20 for his death or capture. He attacked a carter's dog on the Stroud road: the carter, armed with his whip, succeeded in killing him, and went to Gloucester in triumph to claim the reward.

THE "ROOT" OF LIVERPOOL.—A specimen of the glossy ibis, or "liver," a rare and accidental visitor in this country, has been shot at Lytham, in Lancashire. According to Montagu, "the ibis is adopted as part of the arms of Liverpool. The bird is termed a liver; from which that flourishing town derived its name, and is now standing on the spot where the pool was, on the verge of which the liver was killed."

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CHURCHES AND THE WORKING CLASSES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

MR. EDITOR,—Will you allow me to address a word or two to your readers, and to those whom they may influence, upon a subject which I feel to be one of very great importance? The attention of Christians has, of late, been frequently directed to the condition of the working classes, especially in connexion with their well-known alienation from our religious institutions. But, with one exception, I am not aware that any practical effort is made to mitigate this acknowledged calamity. The working classes are perfectly willing to attend lectures during the week on the subject of religion, but how inadequate are the means adopted by Christian churches to inform the popular mind in this way, although it is so frequently deplored that doubt, misunderstanding, and error, are lamentably prevalent.

Within the last few weeks, I have delivered two lectures, at the request and under the auspices of the Christian Instruction Society, and have been exceedingly gratified by the numbers who have attended, and by the gratitude which they have manifested for the interest taken in their welfare, but chiefly by the enthusiasm with which they have responded to the fundamental truths of the Bible and Christianity. Is it not most grievous, that while such audiences can be collected together to listen to the discussion of those questions respecting which their minds have been so malignantly perverted, and with which their destinies as moral, responsible, and accountable beings are so intimately connected, we should have no adequate metropolitan organization to secure the systematic delivery of lectures throughout London, during the long nights of the winter season? The only society which has attempted anything of this kind, so far as I know, is the Christian Instruction Society. But the sphere of its operations is very limited, in consequence of the lowness of its funds; and I am, indeed, credibly informed, that this valuable association will inevitably become extinct before the return of another season, unless some special and general effort is at once made to recruit its resources. Surely our Christian churches would not allow this if they knew it! When ministers are ready to give their labours gratuitously to promote the objects of this society, may not the churches be looked to, that, by their contributions, they may place it in a position to meet the incidental expenses connected with a methodical and extensive plan of thus instructing the neglected portions of our population?

I am, Mr. Editor, yours truly,

HENRY BATCHELOR.

Fetter-lane, January 12, 1852.

INTRODUCTORY LECTURES AT NEW COLLEGE.

DEAR SIR,—In the review in the *Noncon* of "the Introductory Lectures delivered at the opening of New College," the writer expresses his "regret that this volume has not given a first-rank place to Mental and Moral Philosophy, as one of the most important studies for the young ministry training at New College."

May I, as a student of that College, be permitted to mention that Professor Godwin having two departments—viz., New Testament Criticism, and Mental and Moral Philosophy (besides Logic and Rhetoric), included in his professorship, he could not well take up both subjects in one introductory lecture; and an alternative being presented, he, I presume, was induced to select the most important. It is, however, a mistake to suppose that prominence is not given to the other department entrusted to Mr. Godwin, whose courses on Mental and Moral Philosophy extend over two years, as will be seen in the prospectus which is published with the "Introductory Lectures." In these courses, Mr. Godwin especially endeavours to lead his students to thoughtful inquiry in reference to their own mental constitution, and the relation which they sustain to the great facts of moral science; and in this effort he is singularly successful.

I do not know whether a more formal communication may be addressed to you on the subject from any one officially connected with the College; but it appeared to me a matter of simple justice to the arrangements of the Council, and to the labours of a professor who is held in especial esteem and affection, that you should be put in possession of the facts of the case.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

A NEW COLLEGE STUDENT.

New College, London, Jan. 12, 1852.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE may at last be said to be cleared out, and in the course of the week every package will be gone, all the partitions removed, and the vast area open from end to end. In a few days the public will no doubt be admitted once more into the interior. The Lords of the Treasury have appointed a commission to ascertain the cost of purchasing the building, of keeping it in repair, of making it a permanent structure, of removing it to some other situation, and, generally, the purposes to which, if retained, it could best be applied. This commission consists of Lord Seymour, Sir William Cubitt, and Dr. Lindley, and it is now actively engaged in taking evidence on all these points. Under the care of Lieutenant Tyler the Trades' Collection is making rapid progress, and besides the large and valuable number of objects already brought together, the most commendable spirit of co-operation has been evinced by the public, and the most liberal promises of contribution have been received. Every means will, it is said, be used to render it a really practical thing, the rendezvous of all novelties, accessible to experimentalists, and freed from the deadening influences of an antiquarian character. Sir Stafford Northcote is preparing for the Royal Commission an elaborate report, in which a large and highly interesting mass of statistics connected with the Exhibition will be included.

METROPOLITAN INTERMENTS BILL.

INTENDED DEPUTATION TO LORD J. RUSSELL.

On Monday, a deputation, consisting of Lord Dudley Stuart, J. A. Nicholay, Esq., Mr. Kirby, the magistrate, Mr. Swaine, and several members of the Marylebone Vestry, attended at the Court-house, for the purpose of proceeding, by appointment, to Downing-street, to present a memorial to the First Lord of the Treasury, praying the Government to introduce a bill empowering parochial authorities to purchase sites for, and to have the control of, extramural interments. Shortly before the hour appointed for the departure of the deputation, the following communication, addressed to the Vestry Clerk, was received:—

Downing-street, Jan. 12, 1852.

Sir,—I find that Lord John Russell has sent word that he is not coming up to town before Wednesday. His lordship must have forgotten that the deputation had been appointed to Downing-street to-day at one o'clock. I fear that it would be too late, at present, to send a letter to Richmond. I regret the trouble which this mistake will occasion you. I shall not fail to inform you as soon as I have heard when Lord John Russell will be enabled to receive the memorial.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

A. M. RUSSELL.

W. E. Greenwell, Esq., Court-house.

Lord Dudley Stuart expressed his surprise at this letter, and considered the conduct of the noble lord most extraordinary. He (Lord Dudley Stuart) felt certain that the bill could never be carried out as formerly proposed under the Board of Health, and begged to state that he had received a letter from his colleague, Sir B. Hall, which, as it contained some valuable suggestions as to the proposed measure, he would, with the permission of the gentlemen present, read. His lordship then read the following letter:—

Llanover, Jan. 7, 1852.

My dear Stuart,—I have received your letter, informing me that Lord John Russell will receive a deputation on Monday next. It is very annoying to myself that I cannot attend it. I have an engagement on Tuesday, the 13th inst., which I do not see any chance of being able to postpone, but if I can do so I will. In the meantime, I enclose my suggestions on the main points. It is very clear that the Bishop of London will try to get the whole out of the hands of the parish authorities, and place it under the Board of Health, or some such irresponsible body. This is the main point to defeat. You shall hear from me again, and if I can run up to town I will do so.

Yours truly,

B. HALL.

The following are the suggestions alluded to in the foregoing letter—Propriety of extramural interments. Management as to purchase of sites, charges for burial-fees to clergy, &c., to be left to the parochial authorities, who shall provide the ground. Where parishes are small they may be united for the purpose of purchasing sites. Parishes shall make annual reports. These are the material points, all the rest are matters of detail contingent upon them. Under local management the works will be accomplished, but it cannot work under such bodies as the Board of Health, or the Government.

Lord Dudley Stuart felt very sanguine, from a conversation which he had recently had with Lord Seymour, that a most important improvement would be made in the bill next session. That nobleman had informed him that the Extramural Interments Bill was placed under his (Lord Seymour's) management for the next session, and he was quite in favour of local control [hear]. After some further conversation upon the subject, the deputation separated, agreeing to await a further communication from Lord J. Russell.

DELIRIUM PRODUCED BY JOY.—A Liverpool paper promulgates an extraordinary story of this kind—a man at Birkenhead losing his reason with excessive joy at the announcement that he had become a father. The man, who is a joiner, upon being informed of the fact on his return from his work—immediately danced and jumped about the room in a very excited state. Soon afterwards he became frantic, and hurriedly left the premises. Nothing was heard of the man for two days, although a diligent search was made for him, but on the evening of the third day he made his appearance at his house, and had scarcely entered, when the cries of his new-born child were heard, which produced on him the greatest excitement. Without speaking to any one, he sallied forth into the yard, where he stripped himself of all his apparel, except his shirt and trousers. He then rushed out of the house, and fled in the direction of Claughton Park, after which he was seen to enter a plantation at Bidston. Several persons were deputed to discover his whereabouts, but, although he had been seen rambling about Bidston-hill in his wild and naked state, none of them succeeded in securing him. After being worn out with hunger and fatigue, he entered a small cottage at the foot of Bidston, kept by a person named Davies, and requested to be supplied with some milk. An old woman, pitying the forlorn condition of the wretched man, prepared him some bread and milk, which he ate with avidity, after which he again made his way into the plantation. On the following morning (nearly a week after he had left his home) Davies met the maniac on the top of Bidston, and inticed him to his return, where the old woman again served him with a quantity of food. At this time the unfortunate man presented a wretched aspect, his feet and legs being torn and lacerated by walking amongst the briars in the plantation. Whilst he was asleep, Davies sent word to his friends, who took him home, and he is now in a fair way of recovery.

THE LOSS OF THE "AMAZON."

We are happy to learn that the loss of life by this dreadful event was not so great as at first supposed. Besides the twenty-one persons who escaped with Mr. Vincent in the dingy and life-boat, a Dutch vessel picked up and landed at Brest six passengers and nineteen of the crew, who had escaped from the burning wreck in two boats—one of which was picked up at six on the morning of Sunday, and the other in the evening of that day. The number of the ship's officers was ten, of her engineers six, of her seamen ninety-six, and of her passengers, forty-nine. Of these 161 persons, 115 are therefore still missing. It is possible others may have escaped; for nine boats in all put off from the ship, only three of which were seen to go down.

It will be remembered that the fire was first observed about twenty minutes to one o'clock on Sunday morning, when the vessel was a day's sail from Lands End; and that the only particulars known were those communicated by Mr. Vincent. The following descriptive and more detailed accounts have been collected from day to day:—

The boats of the "Amazon" were fitted with iron cranes or crutches on which their keels rested; these fittings obstructed their clearance from the ship, and but for this fatal arrangement the loss of life would have been lessened. Captain Symonds ordered that no one should get into the boats. This order was obeyed until the people saw the flames overpowering the ship. He was last seen with the man at the wheel, ordering the helm to be put up, so as to keep the ship before the wind. His last words were, "It is all over with her." The officer of the watch, Mr. Treweeke, (second officer,) was walking the bridge when the accident was discovered. Mr. Henry Roberts, chief officer, in his shirt only, was actively assisting the captain; he was last seen going through the companion down to the main deck, and is supposed to have perished there. Mr. Lewis, (third officer,) Mr. Goodridge, (fourth officer,) and the two midshipmen, some of whose berths were forward on the port side of the main deck, were probably suffocated, as were also the chief engineer, Mr. George Angus, and Mr. Allen, the superintending engineer on behalf of Mr. Seward the constructor of the engines, as they were seen in the engine-room ten minutes before the fire broke out, going forward, there being no possibility of their return through the flames. The second engineer, Mr. William Angus, was on the spar deck, between the funnel and the crank gratings, pulling oars, and throwing them out of the way of the fire on the deck, near the boats. The two best boats were stowed on the top of the sponsons, where the flames prevented approach. After the "Amazon" was put about, she went at the rate of twelve or thirteen knots dead before the wind. One boat on the starboard-side, the second cutter, was full of people, when the wash of the sea unhooked the foremost tackle; she held on by the stern-tackle, and her stem falling into the sea, all except two were drowned, in consequence of the ship's speed. The pinnace was observed on the port-side, towing by the fore-tackle, behind the burning ship; and, as no one cut the tow-ropes, the miserable passengers, who were all huddled together, were one after the other washed into the sea. The mail-boat, which was also full of people, having shipped a quantity of water, went down alongside.

When the flames had approached the after companion, two male passengers came up from the saloon, all in flames, and running aft, fell on the deck. A tall lady, supposed to be Mrs. Mac-laren, entreated some one to take care of her child; but she would not enter either of the boats. Dineford, the quarter-master, placed one lady passenger in a boat; but she, being extremely agitated, got out again, and although Henry Williams and another used some force and begged her to go in, she persisted in remaining on board. The stewardess, Mrs. Scott, with her bonnet and shawl on, and something in her hand, first asked Steer to put her in the dingy, and then left for a larger boat. At the time of leaving, some of those who yet lived were kneeling on the deck praying to God for mercy; while others, almost in a state of nudity, were running about screaming with horror.

The survivors escaped in the after-starboard second life-boat, in which was Mr. Neilson. One of her occupants (Maylin), in leaving, pressed his foot through the burning deck and injured it; two others (Williams and Passmore) had to climb the starboard paddle-box through the flames and smoke. They succeeded after three attempts, and then slid down hands and face over the paddle-box into the boat; several went down by the tackles. Two of the watch below (Williams and Foster) had their hair burnt while coming on deck. When the life-boat left there were sixteen on board; they heard some one shouting in the water, and threw over a keg and some oars. They endeavoured to approach, but a sea carried the boat off. They then took Mr. Vincent, Mr. Williamson, Mr. Sisley, and two sailors, from the dingy, and making her fast to the stern, towed after the burning wreck, thinking to save more lives; but the dingy having filled, they were obliged to cut her adrift, and, fearing that they themselves should be swamped, their boat's head was put to face the sea. Twelve oars were at work, the wind was increasing, and heavy squalls coming on. They saw the ship's gig full of people, shouting as if for assistance, and, at the same time, descried a sail standing apparently to the southward. The vessel appeared to pass between the two boats, and after this the gig was not seen; whether she was swamped or was taken up by the stranger is unknown. The strange vessel came pretty close under

the life-boat's stern, when all shouted together, and thought they were answered on board. She was a barque, under close-reefed topsails, foresail, and fore-topmast staysail; her spanker was hanging in the brails, as if she was in the act of wearing. Soon after her helm was put up, and she bore right down towards the wreck, behind which she disappeared. The masts of the steamer went over before four o'clock in the morning, the foremast on the port and the mainmast on the starboard side. One poor fellow appeared at the jib-boom end; the jib was cut loose, and was blowing away. Her mizenmast was still standing while she was in flames from stem to stern. About five o'clock, when the life-boat was passing the ship in a leewardly direction, the gunpowder in her two magazines aft exploded; and in about twenty minutes, the mizen having gone by the board, she made a heavy lurch and went down, her funnels being red hot and still standing.

Those in the boat now pulled before the sea and wind, thinking to make the French coast, which was, as they thought, the nearest. Mr. Vincent's monkey jacket, being mounted on an oar, was their only sail, and the boat was kept dry by baling her with his boots. At half-past ten on Sunday morning they saw a brig, and, taking down the jacket, they hoisted handkerchiefs, fore and aft, for signals of distress; and at twelve o'clock, in lat. 48 deg. 50 min. N., and long. 5 deg. 30 min. W., they were taken aboard the "Marsden," as Mr. Vincent described.

Amongst the lost passengers was Mr. Eliot Warburton, the accomplished author of "The Crescent and the Cross." He had been deputed by the Atlantic and Pacific Junction Company to come to a friendly understanding with the tribes of Indians who inhabit the Isthmus of Darien. It was also the intention of Mr. Warburton to make himself perfectly acquainted with every part of those districts, and with whatever referred to their topography, climate, and resources; an intention that has been frustrated by his untimely and dreadful death.

The value of the "Amazon" when ready for sea was about £100,000. The loss of that sum falls entirely upon the insurance fund of the company—a fund exclusively devoted from annual grants derived from the profits of the company towards such casualties. The value of the specie, quicksilver, cargo, &c., when added to the value of the ship, will give a total loss of property by this melancholy occurrence of not less than £200,000 sterling.

The West India Mail Company has been the most unfortunate of all the great steam-packet associations in the loss of their steam-ships. Since the establishment of the company in 1841, no less than eight of their fleet of steamers have been destroyed by casualties on the sea. We recapitulate their names,—the "Medina," wrecked on the 12th of May, 1844, on a coral reef, near Turk's Island; the "Isis," on the 8th of October, 1842, sunk off Bermuda, having previously struck on a reef; the "Solway," wrecked off Corunna, on the 8th of April, 1843; the "Tweed," on the 12th of February, 1847, on the Alacranes rocks, Gulf of Mexico; the "Forth," likewise lost on the same rocks, on the 15th of January, 1849; the "Actæon," lost in 1844, in the Negrellos, near Carthagena; and the new steamer "Demerara," stranded in the river Avon, near Bristol, not long since. The wrecks of the "Tweed" and "Solway" were attended with peculiarly distressing circumstances, involving the loss of nearly 120 lives; and now the catalogue is closed by the destruction of the "Amazon," under more appalling circumstances than accompanied any of the preceding losses.

Soon after the arrival of the "Gertruida" (the Dutchman) at Brest, a French Government steamer, called the "Souffleur," was despatched to the locality of the wreck to search for the missing boats, but returned unsuccessful.

The Directors of the Royal Mail Steam-packet commenced at Southampton, on Thursday, an investigation into the circumstances of the disaster. Mr. T. Baring, M.P., Chairman of the Company, presided; and Captain Corry, of the Royal Navy, attended from the Admiralty. The witnesses examined were Captain Barton, the Company's superintendant at Southampton; Mr. John Seward, the constructor of the "Amazon's" engines; Mr. George Mills, engineering superintendent to the Company; with Mr. W. Vincent, the young midshipman, and several of the crew who escaped with him in the life-boat.

The principal subject of inquiry was, of course, the origin of the fire. Suspicion attached chiefly to the heated state of the "bearings" of the engines. Mr. John Seward stated, that the engines worked well on the experimental trip; the bearings heated, but that was a usual and common thing with new machinery; the only consequence was a slight tightening of the bearings, which is abated by pouring on cold water. Mr. George Mills stated, that the bearings which heated were so far removed from all woodwork that the heating would be quite harmless. J. Melbourne, a rescued water-tender, seems to have been the first of the survivors who saw the fire. He could not say where the fire came from; it was as rapid as gunpowder. He saw some flashes of fire near the steam-chest, but he could not tell the cause. There were some tarred coal-sacks on the top of the boiler, but he did not believe that it was they which caught fire—the casing of the boiler was not hot enough for that. Nor was it the heating of the bearings: he himself was cooling the bearings by pouring water on them; and only five minutes before he had reported that the bearings were getting a great deal better. Mr. Angus, the first engineer, was a careful steady man, and a good master. Mr. Dunsford, quarter-master of the "Amazon," believed that

"no soul could tell the cause of the fire; it was like a flash of powder. The hose was got ready, and the donkey-engines began to play upon the flames; but the men could not stand near them for more than five minutes. The captain was there, handing buckets to witness. The captain then said to Mr. Roberts, 'I believe it's all over.' Witness never saw him after. He was certain that the fire had not arisen in the coals." There was very great confusion on deck. "One lady caught hold of me; I begged of her to let me go to get the boat out. We had nothing but the water-closet pumps to work. They were excellent pumps." Young Mr. Vincent, the midshipman, repeated the statements made in his letter, and then gave further evidence, which throws some light on the causes why the boats were comparatively unavailable:—

Mr. Baring: Did the people's getting into the boats prevent their being lifted?—Yes; that's what caused so much confusion. Every one rushed to the boats before they were cast off. That made it difficult to raise the boats out of the cranes.

Mr. Baring: Would there have been any difficulty had the people not got into the boats?—No.

Captain Chappell read the following letter from Mr. Neilson, one of the survivors, on the conduct of Mr. Vincent:—

Halewood, near Liverpool, 7th Jan., 1852.

Sir,—As one of the survivors of the passengers of the unfortunate "Amazon," I feel it my duty to bring, through your official position, to the notice of the directors the gallant conduct of Mr. W. Vincent, midshipman of that vessel. He will have given you a description of the event, which I need not therefore dwell upon; but he will not have told you of the admirable manner in which he behaved throughout the scene. I had got away in one of the life-boats, with fifteen of the crew; we picked Mr. Vincent, Mr. Sisley, and three men, out of the dingy, which immediately swamped; and not for one moment during the trying scene that followed, did that young officer show the slightest symptom of fear or hesitation, or utter a single murmur in complaint. His whole care and attention seemed devoted to the men of whom he took the command; and his entire conduct throughout was worthy of the profession to which he belongs, and of which, if he lives, he must become a distinguished ornament. I have had an opportunity this morning of mentioning his conduct to the President of the Board of Trade, and shall feel deeply gratified by any mark of approbation the Directors may feel disposed to show him.

I am, &c.

ROBERT NEILSON.

It is stated that the Directors have attended to this recommendation, by appointing Mr. Vincent fourth officer to the "Thames." They are about, also, to present him with a quadrant, on which will be engraven a record of his heroism and pre-eminent merit; and he has been ordered to replace everything he lost in the wreck at the expense of the company. The Directors met again on Monday, and then adjourned till Thursday (to-morrow). The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have been written to, expressive of the Directors' cordial acquiescence in any further inquiry their lordships may desire to establish.

On Monday, one of the most numerous and influential meetings ever held in Southampton assembled at the Guildhall, in response to an invitation promptly issued by the Mayor, to organize a committee, and take other measures for promoting a subscription on behalf of the surviving sufferers. The Mayor presided, and was supported by a large number of the clergy and Dissenting ministers of the town, magistrates, members of the Town Council, gentlemen connected with the various steam companies of the port, &c. The Town Clerk read the following letter:—

Windsor Castle, Jan. 10, 1852.

Dear Sir,—Before receiving your letter of yesterday's date, I had been commanded by her Majesty the Queen to make inquiries with respect to any assistance that it was proposed to extend to the unfortunate widows and orphans of the sufferers in the late most awful destruction of the "Amazon." I have this morning had the honour to submit your letter to the Queen and the Prince, and I have received the commands of her Majesty and his Royal Highness, to acquaint you that, in the event of a public subscription being opened for the relief of the families reduced to distress by this fearful calamity, you are authorized to announce a subscription of £150 upon the part of her Majesty and his Royal Highness. Any information that you can give me as to the position in life and particular circumstances of any of those who have unfortunately perished, I shall be obliged to you if you will communicate. Can you tell me anything of Mr. Vincent, whose conduct has been so highly spoken of?—Believe me, dear sir, yours truly,

R. Andrews, Esq.

C. B. PHIPPS.

The reading of this kind letter elicited hearty applause, as did many of those which followed. Upwards of fifty letters in all were read, each enclosing a contribution, and the amount announced as having been received made up a total of £1,000 before the proceedings closed.

During the proceedings, Mr. Vincent entered the hall, and was welcomed with several rounds of enthusiastic cheering. A similar expression of sympathy was also manifested towards Mr. Williamson, the chief steward, and one of the surviving firemen. Amongst the resolutions adopted, was one expressing the approbation of the meeting at the conduct of the surviving members of the crew, and especially that of Mr. Vincent. This resolution was carried with acclamations, and three hearty rounds of cheering were given for Mr. Vincent and three for Mr. Williamson and the other survivors. Mr. Vincent said he deeply felt the compliments they were pleased to bestow upon him for any humble services he might have been providentially enabled to render for the saving of his own and his fellow-creatures' lives. The memory of that awful night would never be effaced from his mind. In whatever situation he might hereafter be placed, he hoped he should

always remember, and be able to act upon, the words of the immortal Nelson: "England expects that every man will this day do his duty" [great cheering].

The Committee will sit at the Audit-house every day to receive subscriptions, and on other business connected with their important and interesting duties.

The following details of the hair-breadth escape of the two ladies who were saved, are given in a letter from a lady at Brest:—

They (the two ladies) are anxious to get away as soon as possible, but the lady (Mrs. M.) has been so much bruised knocking against the vessel, and by the men walking over her, that she can hardly move. Miss Smith (the governess), when the sailors wanted to give up rowing, stood up in her night-gown, and said, "Now, my lads, cheer up a little; keep up, or I, a feeble woman, will take an oar." So she took one, and when she was dipping it they jumped up and began again. She seems a very quiet, nice person, and very kind to the lady, with whom she was not acquainted till they met on board, and they had only been there 35 hours. The lady's child (19 months old) was thrown twice out of her arms in the scramble. She was in the boat on the side of the vessel, and two of the ropes holding it were cut, so the boat was hanging, only held by one hand. She was obliged to hold on with one arm, and she just caught her child by the end of his night-gown; and she thought she would have been burnt in the boat. She was in the boat from one o'clock on Sunday morning till eight Sunday evening, and Miss Smith till seven o'clock Monday morning.

DEATHS FROM THE EXHALATIONS OF A CESSPOOL.—A Sheffield razor-smith and his wife were both found dead in their bed one morning last week. The coroner's inquest elicited, that at the south end of the house, and about four yards distant, there is a cesspool, into which was thrown, about a week before, a mattress on which a sick man had lain a long time, and some mischievous persons had set it on fire. The mattress continued in a smouldering state all the week. Mrs. Hall, who was very asthmatical, complained of the stench from the cesspool interrupting her breathing, and her husband covered over the smouldering mass with ashes. A heavy fall of rain formed the superficial layer of ashes into a concrete, so that the exhalations from the smothered fire could no longer arise. The noxious steam consequently penetrated the foundation wall of Hall's house, which was already decayed by the action of the feculent matter, and the fumes stole into the bed-room. It was a small, low room, very imperfectly ventilated, the fire-place being closed by a fire-board. While the unconscious victims were quietly reposing, the room became filled with the noxious exhalation, which, being strongly charged with sulphuretted hydrogen gas, destroyed their lives so subtly as not to disturb their sleep. The olfactory nerves had been previously blunted by the abominable stench.

MURDER NEAR BANBURY, OXFORDSHIRE.—An Italian named John Kalabergo, has for many years carried on a thriving trade as a jeweller in the High-street of Banbury. He possessed a vehicle, with which (laden with his wares) he made frequent journeys through the neighbouring country. He started upon one of these excursions on Saturday, accompanied by his nephew, and when returning home the same evening he was murdered near Wilcot-hill, a distance of three miles from Banbury. The dead body was discovered upon the road, between 6 and 7 o'clock, and his horse and cart were stopped somewhat nearer Banbury, about the same time. The body was conveyed to a public-house in the village of Wilcot, hard by. It was then discovered that his death had been caused by a gunshot wound, the ball having entered the back of the skull. There was also a contused wound upon the forehead. The pockets had not been rifled, a £10 note, upwards of £3 in coin, and a bank receipt for £500 being found. The companion of the murdered man on reaching Banbury, made known the death of his uncle; stating that they had been attacked by a party of three ruffians, and seeing the uselessness of resistance he had fled across the fields to town. The nephew has been placed under detention; but at the coroner's inquest, which was commenced on Monday, no evidence against him was adduced.

THE "MOST DEMOCRATIC TOWN IN ENGLAND."—The most remarkable indication of the state of trade in Birmingham during the past year is to be derived from the savings of the working classes. These are shown in various ways. The accounts of the savings' bank for the year 1851, although not yet published, are made up; and it appears that, during the last twelve months, there has been an increase of 1,025 depositors, and of upwards of £20,000 in deposits. The aggregate amount of deposits, as will be shown by the report when it appears, is close upon £400,000. But this is not all. There are numerous freehold and building societies in Birmingham, and not less than £70,000 has been paid by the artisans of Birmingham into their various treasuries.

THE SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH IN PERIL.—During a gale on Sunday morning, a Russian brig drifted from her anchorage, and presently the anchor got hold of what the master believes was the telegraph cable; the ship's chain held for some time, but then snapped, being weaker than the telegraph cable, and the vessel drifted to the Downs.—It is stated that a new additional cable, with four wires, is in the course of manufacture, for the purpose of being laid down from coast to coast. Should, therefore, any accident occur to the cable now in use, the regular transmission of communications between England and France will not be interrupted.

FRANCE STILL UNDER THE REIGN OF TERROR.

It was expected that, after the proclamation and ceremony of New Year's Day, there would have been some relaxation of the state of siege. But all the features of a régime sustained by absolute force are still observable. Not the least remarkable of these is, the dubiety that shrouds the simplest matter of fact. Not only is it yet uncertain whether all the generals have been released from Ham, but the personal movements of the President himself are concealed in contradictory reports. We noticed last week, that he was absent from a banquet given in his honour, on Saturday, the 3rd inst. On the Sunday, he was to have been present at a dinner given by the Prefect of the Seine, to the Ministers, the Marshals of France, the Judges, and the heads of departments; but again he was absent, from "slight indisposition." Then, he himself was to have entertained the heads of departments and the veteran Generals of the Imperial armies, in the Salon of the Marshals, in the Tuilleries, on the Monday; but it is a perfect mystery whether he was present or not. Some of the semi-official journals describe his presence and his demeanour circumstantially; state who sat on his right and left; and add, that "the Mayor of Epinal gave utterance to the joy which filled every heart;" but other semi-official accounts say that no speeches were made; and private accounts aver positively that M. Bonaparte was not present at all, and that the lying tales of the journals only describe what was intended to happen.

He went in state, however, to a private performance at the opera on Tuesday evening. The "additional correspondent" of the *Times* says, "A more signal display of magnificent dulness was never witnessed." The piece was Meyerbeer's *Prophète*.

The box occupied by Louis Napoleon, to the right of the entrance to the amphitheatre, almost in the middle of the salle, was made out of three or four of the ordinary boxes, which had been displaced for the purpose. It was disposed in the form of a gorgeous dais, with velvet hangings and gold ornaments, and projected over a portion of the amphitheatre. The dais was surmounted by the huge effigy of an eagle with spread wings, in gold,—an object which, I have learnt, was recently discovered, among other valuable relics of the empire, in the possession of M. Vallette, an amateur of curiosities and articles of vertu and antiquity. Around the amphitheatre, immense tricoloured banners were attached to the columns, with the inscription "Honneur et Patrie." Upon the numerous banners hung in the salle and the foyer more than 120 eaglets were painted. The audience looked like the audience of a garrison-town on some special occasion, and on an enormous scale. I never before saw such a display of military uniforms within the walls of a place of public amusement. There were comparatively few ladies, and many of these were attired in the fashion of the empire. One of the most conspicuous for the beauty of her costume, was the Princess Mathilde, cousin of Louis Napoleon; who occupied the box usually allotted to the President, and looked as if she had stepped out of the frame of one of the Napoleon dynasty of painters. In the premières loges de balcon were the Ambassadors of England and Turkey, the Ministers of Russia, Naples, Denmark, Spain, Prussia, America, &c.; in the amphitheatre stalls, the Generals and Colonels of the army; in the orchestra stalls, the Mayors and delegates; while the wives of the ambassadors and other ladies of distinction occupied conspicuous places, and rivalled each other in the splendour and variety of their toilets—most of which, however, were more or less, especially in what concerned the coiffure, style de l'Empire. With such an entourage, it was natural that Louis Napoleon should be well received. It was a theatrical close borough, where all the voices were at the command of the proprietor. The coup d'œil, however, although the salle was lighted 'au jour' with numberless lustres and candelabra, was as oppressive as it was gorgeous. The eye found no rest, and the glitter of light was intolerable.

This Government of fraud and force has done one honest thing—it abolishes the formula from which it has taken all meaning. A clearance is to be made of "Liberté, Egalité, et Fraternité," throughout France; the *Moniteur* has had an imperial decree to the same effect as the provincial one lately issued by the Prefect of the department of the Allier—that these words are to be erased from all the public edifices. At the same time, the ancient and historical names of public buildings, places, and streets, "changed during the Revolutionary period," are to be restored. "Théâtre Français" to become "Théâtre Royal," and the like. M. Morny thus expresses the motive for the change ordered:—"The emblems most worthy of respect lose this character when they only recall evil days. Thus these three words, 'Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité,' form by themselves a touching device; but, as they have been only seen to appear at epochs of troubles and civil war, their coarse inscription upon our public buildings saddens and alarms the passers-by."

The effigy of the Dictator is to appear not only on the coins, but also on the postage-stamps, instead of the female head by which they have hitherto been adorned.

It is observed that recent decrees are signed, "Louis Napoleon, President"—not, as formerly, "Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, President of the French Republic."

The *Moniteur* of Saturday last will stand as one of the blackest records of the revolution of the 2nd of December. It contains three lists of proscription, which may compare in iniquity with the most terrible and vindictive decrees of any era of political revulsion, ancient or modern. At one fell swoop, without trial of any sort, by a stroke of the pen, sixty-six representatives, men including talents of the first order in a variety of departments, are expatriated from France—and not only this, but are pushed from the frontier with the incredible menace that, if they re-enter their country, they will sub-

ject themselves to transportation. A second list of seventeen representatives, including the most illustrious statesmen and generals of the nation, are also banished. The Government apparently is not so ready to make public the penalty with which these also have been threatened in case of their re-entering the French territory. But the most daring violation of all rights remains to be told. Five representatives are transported direct to Cayenne. The name which heads this list is that of Marc Dufrasse. His crime, apparently, is a speech which he made in the Assembly, justifying the decapitation of Louis XVI., a measure voted by the statesman who had the chief finger in concocting the constitution proposed by Louis Napoleon to the French people. The non-official part of the *Moniteur* has the following statement relative to these lists:—

The Government, firmly determined to prevent any cause of troubles, has taken measures against certain persons whose presence in France might impede the re-establishment of tranquillity. These measures are applied to three categories. In the first, are the individuals convicted of having taken part in the recent insurrections; they will be transported to French Guiana or to Algeria, according to their degree of guilt. In the second, are the recognised chiefs of Socialism; their residence in France would be likely to foment civil war; they will be expelled from the territory of the Republic, and will be transported should they return to it. In the third category are included the political men who have made themselves remarked by their violent hostility to the Government, and whose presence would be a cause of agitation; they will be temporarily expelled from France. Under existing circumstances, the duty of the Government is firmness; but it will know how to exercise its repressive measures within just limits. The different decrees which precede only regard the ex-representatives. Marc Dufrasse, Greppo, Miot, Mathé, and Richardet, will be transported to French Guiana.

Among the few eminent members of the Mountain who have escaped proscription, may be mentioned MM. Michel (de Bourges) and Cremieux. The latter pleaded on Thursday before the Civil Tribunal of Chaumont, department of the Haute-Marne, as advocate of the town of Chateaufvillain, in an action between it and the Orleans family.

Five hundred and seventy-five prisoners were conveyed on Friday from Paris to Havre, in order to be transported to Cayenne. No one knows their names, or on what evidence they are subjected to this dreadful punishment.

In addition to the 652,000 francs already granted, a fresh credit of 3,587,000 francs is opened to the Ministry of Marine and of the Colonies, to provide for the expenses of forming the new penal colony.

A "special correspondent" of the *Norfolk News* transcribes from the diary of a "man of letters," a description of the sufferings which he and hundreds of others underwent on the night of December 5th. He was taken in the afternoon, with five friends, from a coffee-room attached to the Opera. They were led first to the dépôt adjoining the prefecture of police. At midnight, 300 were marched thence to the Bicêtre:—

Where many hundred Republicans were already locked up in the "Casemates." Need I say what are the Casemates—a low, narrow, damp vault, bomb proof, receiving no light or air but through loop-holes, and nothing but bare walls, and the soft unfagged ground, upon which a few handfuls of half-rotten straw had been thrown. Each prisoner was given a blanket. But no one will ever know the horrors of that night and of the nights that followed it; the tears of despair, the bursts of indignation, and the silent heartbreakings that moved each of us. No pen can retrace them faithfully.

In the morning we were each given a loaf of black bread, and fresh pails of water were emptied into the tubs disposed along one of the walls; out of them we had to slacken our thirst as well as we could.

During the second night we were awakened by an officer, who came in attended by several armed men. One of them held a lantern, and by the dim light it gave he read, and called out of a list he held, twenty-two names. The poor fellows went out, and although we suspected their fate, some of us seemed to envy it. Alas! the door had been scarcely closed, when it opened again, and a band of three or four hundred more prisoners was thrown into our already overcrowded casemates. Some confusion took place; the passage seemed to be blocked up; and for some minutes a few remained outside, unable to pass the door. Lying near the entrance, I heard the two following phrases, which I most solemnly assert were pronounced in my hearing. The police agent who had the superintendence of the band of new comers, turned towards the officer, whose men were tying the hands of the twenty-two victims just gone out, and said to him, "Take these three and shoot them with the rest, it will make twenty-five." "No," answered the officer, "I have orders to shoot twenty-two, and no more." In the morning we found that three of our companions were raving mad; he that had entered last during the night, and whose life had been so nearly disposed of by the police-agent, was one of them. Poor fellow! he fancied himself in another world, and called incessantly upon his wife and child to come and join him. They were all three taken to Charenton the next day.

The writer fell ill—he happened to be acquainted with the surgeon of the regiment on guard at the Bicêtre, and was transferred to the infirmary. "I was set at liberty on New-Year's day, at six o'clock in the morning, with E—, the astronomer, and a few more. We were cautioned by a friendly voice not to express our joy by any outward expression of gratification; for thirty of my fellow-prisoners, who had been set free the day before, had been reincarcerated immediately, because three of them had welcomed their liberty by a joyous shout of 'Vive la République!'"

We give in another column an analysis, by a contemporary, of "the impossible 7,439,216." The following, from a correspondent of the *Leader*, is too rich to withhold:—

A friend of mine happened to ask a peasant at Auxerre, in Burgundy, if he knew Napoleon, as he was going to vote for him? "Parbleu! do I know him?" replied the peasant; "est-ce que je n'ont pat-été avec lui à Moscou?"—(Didn't I go with him to Moscow?) In the canton of Lalinde, arrondissement of Beyerac, Dordogne, a peasant presented himself to vote. "Where is your bulletin?" said the mayor to him. "I haven't got one; but I beg you to be kind enough to make me one." "How do you wish to vote?" "Eh, parbleu! for the Emperor." "But he is dead." "For his son, then." "But he, too, is dead." "Eh, bien! Monsieur le Maire, il doit rester le Saint-Esprit: I vote for him." Need I add, that the mayor lost no more time in giving the benefit of the doubt to M. Louis Bonaparte.

A good reason now appears why the votes of Algeria were held back: they were unfavourable. Out of 68,000 more than 50,000 abstained; 5,735 voted for Louis Napoleon, and 6,527 against him.

The *Opinion Publique* appeared one day last week with an article on the late decrees of the Emperor of Austria, from which it is supposed the censorship had struck out the main portion; there was a gap of a column of blank space in the midst of the article.

The department of Public Works continues very active. The Lyons and Avignon Railway has been conceded to the Company of Ironmasters on terms more advantageous to the State than could be got before; and the Lyons and Paris Railway to a great company, including many English capitalists and contractors, on equally advantageous terms. The Minister of the Interior has reported in favour of greatly extending the electric telegraph, and has obtained a credit of 4,832,000 francs to carry out his recommendations.

The *Moniteur* of Monday contained the announcement of a scheme which has been for some time expected—namely, the dissolution of the National Guard throughout France, and its reorganization on the principle of Government appointment instead of popular election.

The considerations by which this important decree is preluded are the following. Order, it is alleged, is the only source of work, and is established only in the direct ratio of the strength and authority of the Government. The National Guard ought not to be a guarantee against the executive power, but a guarantee against disorder and insurrection. The principles applied to the organization of the National Guard at the sequel of different revolutions in France, by indiscriminately arming everybody, were only a preparation for civil war. The composition of the National Guard, effected with discernment, secures public order and the welfare of the country. In the rural districts especially, where the public force is inconsiderable in number, it is important to provide against every new attempt of disorder and pillage. Recent experience has proved that a single company of good citizens armed for the defence of their homes suffices to keep in check or to put to flight whole bands of malefactors. The most important provisions of the decree are as follows:—

The National Guards of the Seine will be reorganized by battalions under the orders of the Commander-in-chief. The service is obligatory for all Frenchmen between the ages of 25 and 60 who shall be deemed apt by the *conseil de recensement*. The Government will, nevertheless, fix the number of National Guards for each locality. The National Guard is reorganized in all communes where the Government deem necessary; it is dissolved and reorganized as circumstances require. The President appoints the officers of all ranks on the presentation of the Minister of the Interior, according to the proposals of the commander-in-chief in the department of the Seine, and according to the proposals of the prefects in the other departments. The adjutant non-commissioned officers are appointed by the *chef de bataillon*, who appoints, also, to all posts of non-commissioned officers and corporals, on the presentation of commanders of companies. The National Guard is placed under the authority of the mayor, sub-prefects, prefects, and Minister of the Interior. The citizens cannot take arms, or meet as National Guards, without the order of their officers, nor can the order be given by these without a requisition of the civil authority. No commander of a post can distribute cartridges to the National Guards placed under his command except by virtue of a precise order, or in case of an attack. The *conseil de recensement* is composed as follows:—1. For a company: of the captain, as president, and of two members appointed by the sub-prefect. 2. For a battalion: of the *chef de bataillon*, as president, and of the captains of each of the companies. Provisionally and until the appointment of officers, it is composed of three members for each company, and of nine members for each battalion, appointed by the prefect or sub-prefect. At Paris the appointment shall be made by the Minister of the Interior, on the presentation of the general commanding. The *conseil de recensement* decides on admissions.

To sum up briefly the changes made by this decree in the National Guard, hitherto all Frenchmen, with certain exceptions fixed by the law, were National Guards, chose their own officers, and were at the disposal of the municipal authorities of the commune. Now the officers are appointed by the President and the prefects, and none are admitted to serve except those chosen by the central authorities. In the meanwhile, this force, which is placed entirely under the control of the executive, lies at the charge of the municipalities.

Other decrees follow, appointing General de Lauretine commander-in-chief, and M. Viegra colonel and head of the staff of the National Guard of the Seine.

Cardinal Patrizi has issued a notification, informing the public that the Pope has condescended to grant the permission of using fat in culinary operations on fast-days during the ensuing year. The time of Lent is excepted from this provision.

THE KAFIR WAR AND CAPE CONSTITUTION.

The following, from a private letter in the *Times*, is a lively commentary on the intelligence from the seat of war contained in the Postscript to our last:—

CAMP, BLINKWATER, November 1, 1851.—On the 3rd of last month we left Reit Fontein, where we had been encamped for two months, and moved close to Beaufort, where we remained a week, and then went on to patrol, expecting to be out at longest a week, but were away for sixteen days, and hard work we had during the time, trying to drive the enemy out of an extremely strong position at Waterkloof. We had a very strong force (for this country at least), but have only partially succeeded in our object. We lost in the regiment several men killed and wounded, but, fortunately, no officers. There were altogether about fifty casualties. This is heavy, for the nature of the fighting. We killed, I am happy to say, a great many of the enemy; but they are extremely plucky, more so than in any previous war, their greatly increased intercourse with Europeans having improved them wonderfully in the use of firearms. We had very bad weather all the time we were out, as this is the rainy season, and had often to lie down under a bush in a wet blanket, not only without brandy and water, but without a bit of tough ration beef, after a march of twenty-five miles, and, perhaps, after being a couple of hours with bullets whistling in a very unpleasant proximity to our ears. The seasons in this country are the exact reverse of those in England, this month, November, corresponding with May at home; the grass is getting green here, and the trees are only just out in leaf. I don't think I have yet described our dress (the Seventy-fourth Regiment, I mean) out in the field. Our coats are encased in a pair of half-boots made of untanned leather; our trousers were regimental tartan, but are now almost entirely concealed by leather; and a flannel shirt with a loose collar, black silk neckerchief tied à la Byron, a canvas smockfrock, dyed with mimosa bark and copperas a dark brown; and a regimental forage cap, with a large peak to shade our eyes, and a curtain behind to keep the sun off the back of the neck; complete our dress. Then our arms consist generally of the following—a double-barrelled gun or rifle, a brace of pistols stuck into a belt, to which is attached also a pouch for ammunition, and a small dirk and hunting-knife.

November 13.—Since I began my letter I have had rather a severe loss, both my riding-horse and pack-horse, worth upwards of £30 to me, having been taken by the Kafirs from the camp; and, although they were immediately pursued and fired on, yet they succeeded in driving them off with some others into the bush. It is a great nuisance just now, as horses, in consequence of the war, are very expensive.

As to the constitution, and its reception by officials and the people, it will be recollected that Sir Harry Smith thought the necessity of speed so urgent, and the possibility of improving the draft constitution by any further bandying of it backward and forward between Africa and Europe so little, that he besought Lord Grey to send it out in a final shape at once; and Lord Grey, at last yielding, informed the House of Lords that the constitution would now go back to the Cape only to be "formally and technically" passed by the Legislative Council; when it would be made law by the Queen's prompt confirmation. The document, as we have already stated, arrived at Cape Town on the 31st of October; but instead of being at once laid before the Council, it was sent to Sir Harry Smith, on the field of war, for his instructions; in three weeks it came back, was read "for information," and it was resolved that the formal "first reading" should take place eight days later. That first reading took place on the 28th November. A motion was made by a non-official member of the Council, that the second reading should be had that day three months. This was not, as English readers might suppose, a motion openly to throw the bill out and get rid of it, but was a motion for ostensible progress. On the suggestion of the Attorney-General, it was resolved to take the second reading on the 28th of the present month! The popular estimate of this manoeuvre, and of the Council of four official members, and six nominee non-official members, who executed or sanctioned it, was declared by the great public meeting in Cape Town, at which Sir Andries Stockenström and Mr. Fairbairn were welcomed; and a memorial to the Queen adopted, praying that "as the present Legislative Council of this settlement, to which these most important ordinances have been submitted for consideration, in no sense represents or enjoys the confidence of the inhabitants, your Majesty may be graciously pleased to withhold your consent from any alterations introduced by that body, which shall be found inconsistent with the principles and provisions of the said drafts; and that the whole, as nearly as possible as it now stands, may receive your Majesty's sanction, and be put in force without further reference or delay, so as to restore peace, harmony, and confidence, throughout this portion of your Majesty's dominions, and to promote its future welfare and happiness."

The following are the more important provisions of the ordinances:—

The Parliament of the Cape of Good Hope shall consist of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and a House of Assembly.

The Legislative Council shall consist of the Chief Justice, as President, and fifteen elective members, eight of whom shall be chosen in the Western districts, and seven in the Eastern. Of the first Council, the eight members (four from the Western and four from the Eastern districts) who were elected by the fewest votes shall retire at the expiration of five years, and the remaining seven at the expiration of ten years; and the members afterwards elected shall hold their seats for ten years, unless the Council shall be sooner dissolved by the Governor. A member of the Legislative Council must be thirty years of age, and must own landed property, unmortgaged, worth £1,000; or else landed property of that amount, which, though mortgaged, will, with his moveable property, constitute him the owner of

not less than £2,000 over and above his just debts. Every candidate for the Legislative Council must be nominated by a requisition signed by twenty-five electors, and must have accepted the nomination before he can be voted for. The list of candidates thus legally nominated shall be published in the Government Gazette at least fourteen days before the day of election. No elector can sign such a requisition for more than one candidate.

The House of Assembly shall consist of forty-six members, to be elected for the term of five years. Seven members, exclusive of the member presiding, shall form a quorum. Every person qualified to vote shall be qualified to be elected a member of the Legislative Assembly.

Every male person who shall have occupied, for his own use and benefit, within any electoral division, for the space of twelve months next before the day of registration, any tenement of the value of £25, shall be entitled to be registered as a voter for members of both Houses. But no servant, or other person, shall be deemed to have so occupied any premises of which, in law, the possession would be deemed to be in some other person. Joint occupiers of tenements of sufficient value to qualify them severally shall be entitled to vote. No person shall be an elector unless he is of the full age of twenty-one years, and either a natural-born British subject, or a British subject who was before the 18th of January, 1806, a subject of the Batavian Government in this colony, or else, if of alien birth, naturalized by some act of the Imperial or Colonial Legislature. No person shall be entitled to vote who shall hold any office of profit under her Majesty within the colony. Uncertificated insolvents, insane persons, and convicted felons (not being pardoned), are also excluded from the franchise.

The Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Treasurer, and the Auditor, shall have the right of sitting and speaking, but not of voting, in either House.

All bills granting supplies or imposing taxes shall originate in the House of Assembly. No bill appropriating any sum of money from the public revenue shall be enacted, unless the Governor shall have recommended the House of Assembly to make provision for the specified public service for which such money is to be appropriated. The Governor may assent to any bill, or may refuse his assent to it, or may reserve it for the signification of the Royal pleasure upon it; or he may return it with amendments to either House at his pleasure. But a bill assented to by the Governor may be disallowed within two years by order of her Majesty in Council. All debates shall be conducted in English, and all records of proceedings of the Parliament be kept in the same language.

Every member of either House who resides at a greater distance than ten miles from the place at which Parliament meets shall receive £1 per day for every day spent in travelling to and from, or in attending at, any session of Parliament.

Until the Parliament shall otherwise direct, there shall be reserved out of the revenue of the colony the sum of — for defraying the expenses of the several services enumerated in the subjoined schedules, A, B, C, and D:—Schedule A. Governor, Chief Justice, two Puisne Judges; Salaries of the Attorney and Solicitor General, Crown Solicitor, and contingent and miscellaneous expenses of the administration of justice throughout the colony; Colonial Secretary and his department; Colonial Treasurer and his department; Auditor General and his department; salary of Clerk and miscellaneous expenses of the Executive Council. Schedule B. Pensions. Schedule C. Public Worship. Schedule D. Border department.

OUR AFRICAN SQUADRON AND THE NEGROES OF LAGOS.

Accounts have been received from the Guinea coast of an attack on the Negro King of Lagos, whose possessions skirt the Bight of Benin, in which we have suffered considerable injury, without apparently gaining any equal advantage.

The King of Lagos, Corioocoo by name, had forbidden our men-of-war boats from coming up the river to Lagos; but previously Mr. Beecroft, the Consul at Fernando Po, with the commanders of the "Harlequin" and "Waterwitch," and Lieutenant Patey, the commander of the "Bloodhound" steam-tender, had been received by the King with every demonstration of respect. They, however, failed in their object to engage the King to promise on the part of himself and subjects not to favour the slave-trade. Mr. Beecroft determined on seeking another interview with the King; and "in order to show his sable majesty the hopelessness of any successful persistence in carrying on the inhuman traffic," arranged that the armed boats of the squadron should accompany him up the river under a flag of truce.

Accordingly, the slave squadron fitted out twenty-three boats with an armed force of 260 officers and men, and sent them in towards the river, accompanied by the "Niger" screw-sloop (14) and the "Bloodhound" steam-tender.

As the force crossed the bar, and about four miles distant from the point, a heavy fire of musketry was directed towards it. No notice, however, was taken of this ineffectual show of opposition to the progress of the boats, and the flags of truce were kept flying. When within about a mile and a half of the town, the "Bloodhound" grounded; and as she could not be got off, the boats formed line and proceeded up the river, and kept on, with the flag of truce flying, until they received a heavy fire from some guns and musketry on shore. The fire was harmless, on account of the distance; but now the boats opened their fire with shrapnel shells and round shot, the "Niger" at the same time throwing a shell or two on the point near the mouth of the river. After exchanging a continuous fire for nearly an hour with a beach lined for more than a mile with bodies of men, the boats dashed at the shore, and effected a landing simultaneously at one spot; and then, leaving a sufficient guard at the boats, about 160 officers and men fought their way into the town. They were met, however, with most determined resistance on the part of the natives, who disputed every inch of the narrow streets intersecting each other; and when beat out of one street, ran round by the back-ways, and showed front again at

the end of the other streets. After some gallant fighting in this way against an increasing enemy, who amounted to at least 5,000, and having two officers killed and six men wounded, Captain Forbes fired the houses in the neighbourhood, and retreated in good order.

The "Bloodhound" was got afloat the same night, and the boats returned to the squadron.—The officers killed were Mr. Dyer and Mr. Hall, mates of the "Niger." In addition to the deaths and serious wounds, there were many hurts from spent balls.

AUSTRALIA.

The following extracts are taken from the letter of an emigrant from this country, now settled in Sydney, dated July 29, 1851, and have obligingly been sent to us for publication. The writer, we may remark, has been in the colony barely two years, and landed with only six shillings in his pockets. He is now established in the tanning business, has bought his partner's share, and is driving a good colonial trade. After referring to the gold discoveries, he states that no temptation could seduce him to leave his business for the Australian Eldorado:—

I foresaw from the first that my tanyard, small as it is, would be the best mine for me to dig. Scores of little tanners throughout Australia gave up their business and went to the mines. The result has been, leather has risen nearly 80 per cent. I am now firmly established in business, with nothing to hinder my onward progress. . . . Our political news has been of a determined character of late. The shuffling conduct of Earl Grey respecting the transportation question has caused our population to speak out most loudly. There is a fixed determination to resist the further introduction of convicts, and, if sent, I fear serious results; but since the discovery of gold it would be the height of madness to send them amongst us. Latterly, we have been labouring under a system of colonial mismanagement. Earl Grey has treated this colony as a child in leading-strings, refusing and allowing what laws he pleased;—but a time has come, when this colony, growing into a mighty empire, can no longer permit such domination; and it will require a man of more knowledge of colonial requirements than Earl Grey to be at the helm, or, in the course of a few years, you will see a violent dismemberment of this important colony from the British Crown. . . . The climate of Australia is delightful, the country fertile, and the mountains abound with unknown mineral wealth. In calling it my country I feel a pride. In England I should have grown grey in acquiring what I already possess. We are now in the middle of our winter, and have ripe oranges in clusters on our trees, and the fair ladies of this beautiful southern clime shading themselves with parasols. Labourers get good wages, and provisions are cheap. I see this week in my butcher's bill, prime rump steak 2d. per lb. Gold has been found in large quantities. One fortunate individual found a piece with quartz attached, weighing 106 lbs., containing 66 lbs. of pure gold, and sold it for £4,160. This day we have excellent intelligence from the mines. Parties are doing well, earning £2 or £3 per day.

Speaking of steam communication with this country, see the narrow-minded policy of the British Government. They will actually allow the Americans to cut them out by opening the route via Panama. The uncertainty of our present communication has long been a crying evil, but all to no purpose. Promise after promise has been repeatedly broken. You will say I have grown quite republican from the tenor of my letter. Not so: I only wish this place-and-power system to be done away with. Give us the right to provide remedies for our own disorders. How is England to know what we want, especially when we find our own Governor false to his trust by misrepresenting our public meetings? You may depend upon it, that before the lapse of many years, Australia will claim her independence. . . . Since writing the former part of this letter, another mail has arrived, escorted by mounted police, bringing in 360 lbs. weight of gold in lumps and dust. So you see, the discovery is no fabrication; but thus far the mining process is very laborious, and I may add, precarious.

A ROYAL STEAMER!—The "Megara," a new steam-frigate (screw) was selected, though a transport, not a troop ship, to convey the 60th Rifles to the Cape. She started from Dover on the 3rd, and on the 7th put back, disabled. An officer on board writes:—

The morning of the 3rd was fine, the sea like glass, and this gallant band embarked amid the cheers and regrets of the inhabitants to be landed at the Cape, and to immediately take the field against the enemy. This steamer (Megara) was one of those singled out by the Board of Admiralty as superior to any we have ready, and so well fitted that no one could complain of any want of accommodation. She started, the prayers and good wishes of thousands accompanied her. Night came on, and with it a most terrific gale—nothing stowed away—all confusion, and so perfectly unfitted for a troop-ship was this pet of the Admiralty, that she had not even a place fitted to receive the soldiers' rifles or accoutrements, not even a locker of any description to stow away their food; and it is further a fact that so shamefully has she been fitted that there was not even a place to contain the officers' wine and stock. At midnight we are told the scene was frightful—800 men with no place to sleep in—beer-barrels, hampers of better cheer, great drums, officers' stock, men's wives, baggage of every description—all reeling and knocking about together. At this moment the gale was at its height, the rudder became choked, so that for a time the vessel would not steer; her topsides opened so much as to admit of the water pushing in, and her decks fore and aft were up to the ankles in water, at which moment some confusion took place in the engine-room, from the circumstance of some of the compartments of the machinery catching fire, &c.

The *Lancet* found the flour of all the ordinary dealers unadulterated. The only offenders were members of a company established "to counteract the frauds of bakers!"

MISCELLANEOUS FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

The principal matters of foreign and colonial interest having received separate notice, we have only to string together under this head a number of minor incidents.

Letters from Florence state, that on the morning of the 29th ult., a young Englishman, named Maysher, who had only been a short time in Florence, after standing to listen to the band of an Austrian regiment, was quietly proceeding along one of the narrow streets which issue from the Piazza del Duomo. He had not gone far, when he perceived a *banocino* advancing towards him with all the speed at which these country cars are usually driven. To avoid the danger, he jumped suddenly back, and in doing so came in contact with a young Austrian officer, who was at the same moment coming up at the head of his guard. A smart blow from the flat of a sabre on the back was the mild rebuke for this purely accidental collision. The Englishman, very naturally indignant, demanded in his imperfect Italian the meaning of the outrage. A few angry words were interchanged on either side, when another officer stepped forward and cut the young Englishman down, laying his head open by a sabre wound of fully a finger's length. Mr. Maysher was conveyed to the City Hospital, where he was visited by Mr. Scarlet, the temporary *Chargé d'Affaires* of England in Tuscany, who subsequently addressed an energetic remonstrance to the Government, who have refused apology or investigation.

On New-year's day a quantity of red liberty caps cut out in paper were strewn about the streets of Rome; many arrests took place in consequence.

The trials for the events of May are proceeding in Naples. On the third day the brave old archdeacon Cagnazzi was brought into court in a dying state, and kept there all day. The next morning it was stated that he had received the sacrament; a commission was sent to verify the fact, and the trials proceeded in his absence. It is clear the prisoners will be all sent to the galleys at least. A batch of 54 political offenders are also being tried at Salerno.

A new glass manufactory has just been established at Venice, in which those peculiar processes, which once rendered the glass of that city so celebrated, are to be revived, and combined with the improvements suggested by modern science. The number of workmen it employs at present is 200.

The *Gazette de France*, in its summary of foreign news, states, that the Parliament of the Ionian Islands has been dissolved by the "Lord Mayor!"

The archives of the late German Parliament at Frankfurt, its library, and other goods and chattels belonging to that defunct body, have been seized in execution by the Frankfurt police.

A Hamburg newspaper states that the Ottoman Porte has addressed a note to the English Government, in which it energetically protests against the contemplated return of Kossuth to England; his liberation having taken place, it is alleged, upon the express condition of his permanent residence in the United States. The Porte adds, that it will insist the more strongly upon the strict fulfilment of this engagement, on account of the value which it attaches to the amicable relations which have been happily re-established between it and Austria. The *Cologne Gazette* has a parallel statement.

The Austrian correspondent of the *Daily News* says:—"A Scotch missionary at Lemberg has just been arrested, for holding meetings under the Presbyterian form of worship. Either with or without the good man's knowledge, persons assembled for political purposes, or the authorities chose to suppose that such was their object. The name of the missionary is not given."

A letter from Hanover states, that M. de Loëh, the celebrated German oculist, had expressed great hopes that the King of Hanover's sight would be restored.

The following is a fine specimen of the mercies of the Czar. Karasinski, who had been condemned to twenty years' hard labour in Siberia for a political offence, has had his sentence commuted on the intercession of the Prince of Warsaw, but he is to remain all his life in that country.

The *Prussian Gazette* of the 6th says, that Haschid Murat, the bravest son of Schamyl, the Circassian chief, has surrendered unconditionally to the Russians, and is now a prisoner at Tiflis. The source of this intelligence is not stated.

Mr. Fonblanque, the British consul at Belgrade, in opposition to the usual custom, did not alight from his carriage to pay a visit of ceremony to the Russian ambassador on the occasion of the birth-day of the Czar, but merely sent up his card. The Russian representative sent back the card by his servant, with a message that on this occasion, being the anniversary of the emperor, he would receive none but personal visits. M. Fonblanque, highly incensed, tore up the card, and sent a note to the Russian representative demanding satisfaction.

Telegraphic advices, dated Constantinople, Dec. 29, state that M. Lavalette had delivered the ultimatum of the French Government on the subject of holy places. The Greek consulate at Adrianople had been attacked by a band of armed Turks, with the intention of obtaining possession of two Greek girls who had taken refuge there because one of them had been promised in marriage against her will to a Turk. The father was a Turk, and the mother a Greek. The consul had received satisfaction for this aggression.

The Overland mail, which left Bombay on the 17th ult., informs us that Dhost Mohammed is still

living. Thenorth-west frontiers are still in a threatening state. Sir C. Campbell's forces have not yet returned, and are still without battle. Our naval forces arrived at Rangoon on the 27th of October. The Commodore allows the Governor a delay of thirty-five days to obtain from Ava compliance with his demands; after which, he will proceed to enforce them. The Nizam's debt to the English Government is not all paid yet, nor is it likely to be so. The greater part of Ali Mourad's territory in Upper Scinde is to be occupied. The Aden expedition is abandoned.

Cholera still prevails in some districts of Jamaica; but while it was raging in one or two places, it had lost its malignity in others.

Port Phillip papers, down to the 1st of September, contain the most recent accounts of the gold-seeking operations in that district. Further discoveries of gold had been made at the Victoria, Bunningong, and Banke's Marsh diggings, and fears were entertained that the whole of the labouring population would leave for the mines in the summer, and thus cause considerable difficulty in securing the next clip and harvest.

THE ENGINEERS AND THEIR EMPLOYERS.

In compliance with the notice given, most of the establishments in Manchester and London closed on Saturday; but not so many as was expected.

Application having been made to Viscount Ingestre to aid in mediating between the masters and men, he proposed the following plan of arbitration:—

I venture to suggest that the three parties—namely, the masters, the operatives, and the unbiased party, the aristocracy and gentry—should each delegate four people to form a jury. That one of the judges of the land should be invited to preside; and that an eminent lawyer, properly selected by the jury, should examine the witnesses of both parties. The verdict to be final. Full liberty for the press, and access to the public, as in a court of justice. This, perhaps, might show the necessity of a permanent board, to settle future disputes; but time alone would prove this. I would suggest that, as a preliminary measure, twenty gentlemen—ten nominated by masters and ten by the operatives—should nominate one nobleman or gentleman, one master, and one operative, to form a committee to decide upon what sort of a tribunal should be fixed upon, as to mode of examining witnesses, length of time of trial, in fact, all preliminary measures; and perhaps that they should nominate the jury.

The executive council did not reply to this communication till the 15th. They rendered the noble lord their thanks for his suggestion; but they felt that as the masters refused to receive a deputation from the society, nothing remained but self-employment.

The workmen engaged in the iron trades at Manchester assembled in Carpenters' Hall on Friday to the number of about 3,000, and passed resolutions declaring their opinion, after serious consideration, "that the resolutions issued by the Amalgamated Council for the discontinuance of over-time and piece-work are absolutely necessary;" and pledging themselves to do all they can peaceably to effect the abolition of those evils.

An aggregate meeting (to use the terms of the notice, which was headed "Employers' Strike,") of the workmen in the various branches of the iron trades, was held in St. Martin's Hall, Long-acre, "to consider their present position, and to devise means for the future." On Monday, the hall was filled with not an excited, but an earnestly resolute body of men; presided over by one of themselves, Lord Goderich, and several gentlemen connected with the Association movement, were present, but took no part in the proceedings. Mr. Newton, and a young workman named Usher, were the principal speakers. Usher concluded an intelligent and much-applauded speech with the advice of a poet—

Have faith in one another,
And heart of kindness show,
As down Time's flowing river
In the boat of life we row.
Tho' rough may be the weather,
And the sky be overcast,
If we only pull together
We will brave the storm at last.

All the resolutions were carried unanimously.

A co-operative factory has already been set up in Southwark; and in the evening a crowded meeting was held at the Goldsmiths' Arms to report progress. The Secretary read the rules, which, however, he said, were only provisional. They may be thus epitomized:—

Rule 1. The name of the society. Rule 2. Authorizing the raising of £3,650, or more, in £1 shares; no person to take less than five, nor more than twenty-five; deposit of 4s. per share; no shareholder allowed more than one vote. Rule 3. Providing for appointment of three trustees, a secretary, and five committeemen, to carry on the business in conjunction with the general manager. Rule 4. Mr. J. Laing to be the general manager, to conduct the working department, act with the committee appointed by the shareholders, and be responsible to the trustees for all money received; his salary to be two guineas per week. Rule 5. The three trustees to be appointed by a general meeting; one to act as treasurer, and in their joint names all moneys to be invested. They to advance money to the manager, through the medium of an order from the general secretary, signed by a majority of the committee. Rule 6. Secretary to attend all meetings, &c. Rule 7. Committee to meet once a month, or oftener; books to be always open to their inspection; one to retire every quarter. Rule 8. The business to be carried on in the name of the manager; the profits to be divided as follows:—50 per cent. to form a reserved fund; 50 per cent. divided among the shareholders; no dividend to be made while in debt. Rule 9, 10, 11, and 12. Appointing

general meetings, mode of allotting shares, and of making calls.

Mr. G. Davis stated that they only commenced their association on that night week, and they had already got 27 shareholders, 26 of whom had five shares and one ten shares, and the deposits were all paid up. The committee were in treaty for premises, and one employer had offered to do for them any kind of work which required powerful machinery. Another speaker said he had himself joined a co-operative bakery, and within the last two years they had paid 75 per cent. upon the money invested. At the same time they had paid their men proper wages. They had closed their bakery on Saturday evening, and opened it again on Monday morning. They had not overworked their men, and had sold their bread at a halfpenny per loaf cheaper than competing bakers. He was also connected with a society established within the last three months at Greenwich in connexion with their own trade, which had a capital of £300, and had already obtained extensive orders. A fresh order had been received to supply a 20-horse power steam-engine, together with the necessary accompanying machinery, for a saw-mill about to be erected in Pimlico.

At a meeting held the same evening at Stepney, the investment of £10,000 in co-operative labour was formally proposed and discussed. Mr. Newton said if the £10,000 asked for by the executive council were granted, it would be invested in the purchase of a plant and materials, which would represent the value of the sum expended, and upon the security of which bankers would advance a reasonable sum of money, if required, to enable them to carry on active operations. They would invest £2,000 in London, £2,000 in Manchester, and the balance of the £10,000 in other places according to circumstances, and so find employment for a large number of men. In Lancashire alone he would guarantee the employment of at least 1,000 men, an extensive manufacturer in that county having offered to dispose of his establishment to the Amalgamated Society, which now employed about that number of men. A discussion followed, in the course of which different member expressed regret that it should be necessary to apply so large a portion of the fund to purposes which had not been contemplated at its origin. All the speakers, however, concurred in the opinion that the co-operative system was forced upon them by the masters, and that no better step could, under the circumstances, be taken. Eventually the proposition was unanimously agreed to, as were also the two others accompanying it, regulating the mode of investment and conditions under which work should be performed. These propositions, however, will not be considered as adopted until fully sanctioned by a majority of votes throughout the society. The final decision will be known on or about the 20th inst.

At a meeting of the council it was stated that at Manchester the establishments there closed had only thrown out about 700 men, in Preston; only about 20 members of the society; in all, not more than 2,000, out of 12,000. Letters were read from Brighton, Preston, Stratford, Woolwich, and other places, announcing the firmness of the men, and their determination to render support equal to the emergency of the case. A letter was also read from the secretary of the Bristol branch of the society, stating that an amicable arrangement had been made between the employers and the workmen, so that the latter should continue at work; the conditions demanded by the society being agreed to by the former with regard to the cessation of piecework and overtime; both parties agreeing to be eventually governed by the result of the general struggle. This arrangement is regarded as a favourable omen by the London workmen.

CUSTOMS REFORM.—A deputation from the recent meeting at Liverpool on Customs Reform had an interview of considerable length with Lord John Russell on Friday. In his reply, Lord John stated, that "up to this period private merchants, and not the Government, must be held responsible for whatever defects are found in the system of the Customs;" for Lord Granville and Mr. Hayter had applied themselves during a considerable period to the minute investigation of alleged evils, and they had found the greatest difficulty in inducing persons to come forward with any really useful information. It would be very desirable to have eminent merchants on the Board of Customs, but the salaries were not sufficient to induce merchants of standing to accept the post. The Government desired to act satisfactorily to the trading world, and the whole subject should be inquired into and carefully investigated with the least possible delay.

PROVISIONS FOR SAFETY AT SEA.—A notice has been issued from the Custom House, that no vessel would be cleared for sea, whether steam or sailing vessel, unless furnished with boats and signal-lights, regulated according to tonnage; and, for the greater safety of passengers, any vessel taking more than ten passengers will, in addition to its boats, be required to carry a life-boat, under a penalty of £100 upon the owners, and £50 upon the master.

OPPOSITION TO INCOME-TAX.—At a meeting held in Newcastle-on-Tyne on Thursday last, the Mayor presiding, it was resolved to petition Parliament for the total repeal of the tax upon income derived from trades and professions. The meeting was a numerous one, called by a requisition to the Mayor. Most of the speakers spoke decidedly in favour of direct, in preference to indirect taxation. The parties chiefly instrumental in getting up the meeting expected to carry a motion to petition for the repeal of the property-tax as well; but Sir John Fife and several others spoke in favour of a property-tax.

THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT OF THE GREAT EXHIBITION.—Upon the appointment of the jurors at the late Great Exhibition, the Commissioners decided that one of the members of each jury should be nominated as "reporter," to prepare a report upon a particular class of subjects submitted to it, such report to be drawn up with the care necessary to describe the state of industry of all nations, as shown in the Exhibition, and also in such a manner as might best form a permanent record of the great undertaking itself. Of these reports, the first, by Mr. P. Pusey, M.P., on Class IX.—that devoted to agricultural implements—has just been printed, and presented to his Royal Highness Prince Albert, as President of the Great Exhibition. The report of Mr. Pusey is a valuable and practical one, and shows in a most striking manner the advantages which the agricultural interest have derived from the application of science and engineering skill to the combination and improvement of agricultural machinery. The standard by which the merits of the respective machines examined by the jury are judged in the report of Mr. Pusey is that of "certainty and cheapness of action;" chiefly, however, the latter property—that, indeed, "which forms the superiority of the spinning-jenny over the distaff, viz., economy." In noticing the various implements rewarded by the jurors, Mr. Pusey adopts the following order:—1. Those employed in the preparation of land; 2. In the cultivation of crops; 3. The harvesting of crops; 4. The preparation for market; 5. The preparation of food for stock; 6. Dairy and miscellaneous implements.

MR. MEEHI'S BALANCE-SHEET.—"A great outcry has arisen," says Mr. Meehi, in a letter to the daily papers, "because I have shown, in my farming balance-sheet, that there is a loss of £550 on the purchase of £1,600 worth of cattle food. Two questions arise out of this fact—1. Can food be bought for cattle without such a loss? 2. Is that loss compensated by the value of the manure? To the first I answer in the negative, and to the second in the affirmative. The whole question hinges on these two points. Let not landlords or tenants deceive themselves. No food—be it hay, straw, turnips, oilcake, or corn—can be bought, brought home, and consumed, without a loss (including all charges and casualties) of 33 per cent. As a proof of this, hay worth £3 10s. per ton is valued for consumption at about £2. Turnips and mangold, that are selling here for 12s. per ton, are only worth 6s. to feed—the balance being charged to the manure. If a farmer buys ample oilcake for his cattle, he values his turnip crop nil. If the principle is good for £50, it is equally so for £1,600; but it is absurd to suppose that such a system would be continued when the necessity for it has passed away, my land being now fertile. The tripled rental placed on my property twelve months ago by eminent valuers is sufficient evidence of its improved condition. My annual accounts will show that my agricultural transactions are profitable."

A BLOOMER BALL OF LUNATICS.—The *Western Times* has a "painfully interesting" (if we may borrow a phrase from the undertakers) account of a Bloomer ball, given a few days since to the inmates of the County Lunatic Asylum. Many of the unhappy patients are young women, with fine healthy forms and interesting features and expression. The dress made many of them look exceedingly youthful and interesting, and where a plaintive melancholy had taken possession of the face, the fitful gleams of a transient cheerfulness, which varied the expression, and showed a passing relief, heightened the interest to the spectator:—

Here might be found an expression which it is impossible to forget. To look on such a face without shuddering requires a nerve of adamant. You ask yourself involuntarily, "Does hell really begin on this side the grave?" We saw but one such poor creature—sitting in the society of demons as it were, scorn, hate, malice, and revenge, being the companions of her miserable life, crowding around her, and revealing, through the inextinguishable expression of her dark and sinister face, the complete mastery they had over her unhappy soul. We saw but one such case, and even she was held in thorough subjection by the influences of the place. Flashes of her bitter feelings broke out, but they were repressed by the word of an attendant, for ejection from the ball-room would have been the penalty found for continued breaches of decorum, and the mere threat of that was a sufficient corrective. There was grotesqueness and odd humour enough to show you that you were not walking about among the perfectly sane; but there was, generally speaking, as good order, as much cheerful enjoyment and innocent hilarity, as you would have found in any similar assembly of the sane.

The dancers were mostly of the female sex. The music consisted of a violin, violoncello, flute, and piccolo. The piccolo and violoncello were mad. The two other instruments were considered sane. There was a substitute for a drum in a tambourine, held by one patient, and beaten by another with drum-sticks—the beater being a professional drummer. Though the Bloomer costume prevailed, yet there was a sufficient variety to constitute a very respectable sample of a fancy ball, dressed under difficulties. After the dancing, several toasts were given and acknowledged amidst "loud and general applause."—New Year's Eve was celebrated at Colney Hatch County Lunatic Asylum by a similar entertainment; 230 females and 166 men took tea together, danced, sang, and had a concluding refreshment of cakes, oranges, and mulled beer, without one of the afflicted creatures behaving with impropriety. Many of the county magistrates and other gentlemen witnessed the pleasing scene.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, Jan. 14, Two o'clock.

AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE.

There had been no arrival from New York or Boston since the 6th, until yesterday, when the "Europa" arrived at Liverpool. She left New York on the 1st—a day behind her time; the delay was occasioned by fog.

Public and enthusiastic receptions had been given to Kossuth in Philadelphia and Baltimore. Banquets and speeches followed. Kossuth arrived in Washington on the 30th ult. On the 31st he was presented to the President. According to the *Herald's* account, Kossuth appeared much disappointed at the result of the interview. He was to dine with the President on the 3rd inst.

The fire at Washington had burned the Congressional Library and part of the Capitol. The loss is estimated at 40,000,000 dollars. Upwards of 35,000 volumes were destroyed, together with manuscripts, paintings, and maps. The original Declaration of Independence had been preserved. The origin of the fire was enveloped in mystery.

Advices had been received from California to the 1st December; by the Nicaragua route 500,000 dols. in gold dust had arrived, and there was more coming by the Isthmus route. The U.S. revenue cutter "Lawrence" had been wrecked off San Francisco. Business in California was better.

A fire which broke out in New York destroyed 15 houses in Division-street.

From Canada advices state that the Quebec Artillery Barracks and Ordnance Stores had been destroyed by fire on the 28th ult. The loss was estimated at £10,000. The elections were not concluded.

Five British ships of war had appeared at Vera Cruz to enforce payment of Mexican bonds.

LATEST FROM THE CONTINENT.

The Government is making extraordinary exertions to give employment to the working classes, not only in the capital but in the suburbs. Among numerous other improvements, is the construction of a new church at Saint Cloud, to replace the present. The President proposes further to run a new street from the open space opposite the palace to the new church. The accounts from the manufacturing districts are excellent. The only uneasiness which exists among the manufacturers at Lyons is from the difficulty of procuring a sufficient supply of raw silk and cotton. There has been a remarkable rise in the price of flour in the Paris market since the 1st of January.

Of the 418 taken from the forts Ivry and Bicêtre, for shipment to Cayenne, there are not more than 25 or 30 *repris de justice*—that is, persons who have already been in the hands of justice. All the others are persons who, without having been actually condemned for affiliation in the secret societies, have occupied a prominent position in the ranks of the Democracy. The Military Commission has declared itself competent to decide as to their culpability, and to apply to them the decree on transportation to Guiana. In the number of the prisoners who have already left Havre, are about 50 members of the famous Democratic-Socialist (electoral) Committee of the Seine.

The Bourse was agitated on Monday with accounts of warlike preparations in England, and the consequence was a considerable reduction in the price of public securities.

The following is from a leading article in the *Daily News*:—"We have had letters from the Var, that important department, of which the population turned out against Louis Napoleon, and in which the soldiers have laid waste by fire and sword beyond any cruelties known in the revolution, or even in the dragonnades of Louis XIV. The commune, or parish, of Luc, in the Var, comprised 1,100 electors, that is, males above 20. Of these 1,100, certainly 1,000 turned out against Louis Napoleon; the result has been, that upwards of 600 have been dragged off from prison to prison, some shot, some to be transported. Upwards of 200 are fugitives, hiding in the surrounding woods and parishes. Knowing this, judge of the surprise of every one, on learning from the official returns, that of the 1,100 electors of Luc, 650 voted for the full powers demanded by Louis Napoleon. *Ex uno disce omnes.*"

A letter from Rome, in the *Cattolico* of Genoa, contains the following passage:—

It is said that, in his autograph letter to the Holy Father, Prince Louis Napoleon had avowed his sentiments of filial devotedness in the strongest terms, and declares he will make every effort to put down Socialism. It is added, that an eminent personage having waited upon the Prince, had a long conversation with him, in which the Prince said to him—"Understand me well; I am of the religion of the Pope. I know I am only here provisionally, but I shall remain here long enough to stifle the two monsters of Socialism and of the Revolution." These words have been frequently repeated in well-informed circles.

It was announced last week that the Frankfort Diet had come to a decision against keeping up the so-called "German fleet." This is not precisely the case. The Diet has only failed in coming to such an agreement as would render the ships and utensils federal property, which they are not as yet, because they have been paid for only by certain members of the confederacy, principally by Prussia. The Hanoverian Government, which is naturally most interested, has sent a Privy-councillor to Berlin to negotiate the matter.

The *Augsburg Gazette* and *Frankfort Journal* con-

tain hints of a new Austrian loan to be effected upon the threadbare pretence of redeeming all the government paper money. The latter journal lauds it as a vast financial conception, and states that it is well received on the Frankfort Exchange.

The *Berlin National Zeitung* has letters from the frontiers of Poland, stating that since the events in France a strong military force has been brought together on the borders between Russian and Prussian Poland, and the authorities are ordered to use the strictest supervision over all travellers. All the Polish hotels are placed under special control. Large magazines of provisions and forage are collected from the surrounding country, and, notwithstanding the good harvest, the export of rye and oats is prohibited. These extraordinary precautions have created among the population, a vast number of whom cannot read, an impression that somewhere in the world a dangerous revolution has broken out, or that a war is impending.

THE HEROINES OF THE "AMAZON."

Of the twenty-five saved by the Dutch ship, twenty-one have arrived at Southampton, including Mrs. MacLennan and child, and Miss Smith. The escape of Mrs. MacLennan was almost a miraculous one—she was twice separated from her child, an infant of tender age. Upon the alarm being given she wrapped her infant in a shawl, and rushed upon deck; she was put into a boat without any other garments but her night clothes. In this boat fifteen or twenty persons placed themselves, but being unable to free the stern tackle, the bow went almost perpendicularly down. Mrs. MacLennan was partly thrown into the sea, but clung with her arm to one of the seats of the boat that was fast, and holding the child with the other, remained in a nearly vertical position for half an hour. Mrs. MacLennan was very much bruised, and in this trying situation remained seventeen hours, almost the whole time up to her waist in water, from the sea breaking over the boat, without food and without clothes. Even the infant's shawl they were obliged to make a sail of, in order to keep the boat before the wind. Seventeen hours after she escaped from her berth, she was lifted, almost insensible, but still clinging to her child, on board the vessel that rescued the party. We regret to add that the husband of Mrs. MacLennan is among the missing. She, however, entertains a firm conviction that he escaped in one of the boats, and expresses an expectation that he may yet be heard of. On landing at Southampton she was powerfully affected.

Miss Smith had taken a passage by the "Amazon" to join a family in Porto Rico, with whom she had obtained the appointment of governess. She states that, after having retired to rest on the eventful night, she was aroused by a sudden noise and a cry of "Fire!" She rushed out of her berth in her night dress, but was met by some gentleman, who conducted or carried her back to her cabin, enjoining her not to be alarmed, as the flames would soon be subdued. From the increasing confusion she, however, thought it best to provide for her own safety, and accordingly obtained possession of a blanket and a petticoat, and rushed upon the deck. The appearance of matters there impressed her with the conviction that Captain Symonds had lost all control over his crew, who were rapidly launching the boats and getting away from the ship as fast as they could. Miss Smith, therefore, formed the resolve of saving her own life if possible, and set about it with a coolness quite extraordinary. She put on her petticoat, enveloped herself in the blanket, and then, making fast one end of a rope to some part of the bulwarks, and securing the other end to one of her arms, threw herself overboard with the intention of getting into one of the boats, but, if unsuccessful in this endeavour, to remain suspended as long as she could, and then to drop into the sea, preferring death by drowning to the horrible alternative of perishing by fire. The flames were rapidly approaching the part of the vessel from which she was suspended, when Miss Smith, observing a favourable opportunity, threw herself into one of the boats passing near her: she fell heavily on one of the seats or thwarts, and one of the seamen fell upon her, her chest being thereby severely bruised. In all the trying scenes which followed, her firmness and courage never deserted her; in fact, on several occasions she took her place at the oars, and helped manfully by her bodily exertions to propel the boat. So destitute of clothing were the crew of the boat, that she was obliged to take off her petticoat that it might be hoisted as an emblem of distress.

PROPOSED PALMERSTON MEETING IN ST. PANCRAS.

—Yesterday at the meeting of the board of directors of the parish of St. Pancras, the following letter from Sir B. Hall was read:—"My dear sir,—It is almost certain that very important revelations will be made the first night of the session; I would strongly urge you not to have your meeting before that time, and to have a meeting of the whole parish or borough afterwards. Yours, &c., B. HALL.—Llanover, Jan. 11."

POLITICAL GOSSIP.—It is said that Sir R. W. Bulkeley will move the address in the House of Commons.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, Wednesday, Jan. 14, 1852.

With but little grain and flour offering our trade is very steady at Monday's rates.

Arrivals this week:—Wheat—English, 820 qrs.; Foreign, — qrs. Barley—English, 810 qrs.; Foreign, — quarters; Oats—English, — qrs.; Irish, 1,780 qrs.; Foreign, 1,970 qrs. Flour—English, 730 sacks; Foreign, 650 sacks, 7,300 barrels.

From its extensive circulation—far exceeding most of the journals of a similar character published in London—the *Nonconformist* presents a very desirable medium for advertisements, especially those relating to Schools, Books, Articles of General Consumption, Situations, and Appeals for Philanthropic and Religious Objects. The terms are low:—

For Eight Lines and under 5s. 0d.
For every additional Line 0s. 6d.
Half a Column.....£1 10s. | Column.....£2 10s.

A Reduction is made on Advertisements repeatedly inserted. All Advertisements from the country must be accompanied with a Post-office Order, or by a reference for payment in London.

THE TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION are 26s. per annum, 13s. for the half-year, and 6s. 6d. per quarter.

Subscriptions (payable in advance) are received at the Office, 4, Horse Shoe-court, Ludgate-hill.

Post-office Orders, &c., payable to Messrs. Miall and Cockshaw.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Sojourner at Margate" is rather caustic. Perhaps, if he calls to mind how hard it is to please everybody, he will be more merciful.

"C. Vines."—The quotation is from Edmund Burke, a tolerably classical authority. The meaning is equivalent to that of the Scripture phrase, "an Hebrew of the Hebrews"—the very essence of the terms expressed.

SHAKESPEARE TESTIMONIAL TO Kossuth.—The following penny subscriptions have been received since our last:—Twelve Friends of Kossuth; Mr. H. Webb, and Twelve Scholars in Ebley British School; and the following from Halesham, Sussex—Nine persons employed by Messrs. Taylor and Harmer, Drapers, &c.; Five Printers employed by Mr. T. Bread; Seven Carriers, by Mr. T. Geerings; Five Tailors, by Mr. Halledones; Two Chemists, by Mr. Miller; and One Surgeon.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14, 1852.

SUMMARY.

THE "bravo!" uttered by France (whilst the musket was levelled at her heart), in praise of Louis Napoleon's usurpation, does not mollify him. Nearly 8,000,000 votes, representing the entire adult male population, prove little beyond the fact that fraud, in this instance, lost its wits, and feigned so grossly that its lie is too apparent to deceive. The Constitution, which is to gild over political serfdom with the externals of liberty, and the sole object of which is, not to regulate civil government, but to admit of despotism without doing too great violence to men's sense of common decency—the Constitution which Louis Napoleon promised to Paris as his *étrenne*, or New Year's Gift, is not yet forthcoming. Instead of it, France has her breath knocked out of her by a series of "decrees," which for cold-blooded ferocity, equal anything of the sort, ancient or modern. It was not enough to silence the press—to scatter street groups—to place spies in the *cafés*. The *salons* are now threatened with *surveillance*, and private life is no longer sacred. It was not enough to follow up these severities by a crusade against dead "trees of liberty," and inappropriate inscriptions on public edifices, of "Liberté, Egalité, et Fraternité." No! A dictatorship snatched from an unprepared people who are terrified into a condonation of the offence, can only be maintained by unwonted vigour. However we may be shocked, therefore, we are not surprised to hear of 600 state prisoners shipped off to French Guiana without trial—of 4,000 remaining on hand for future transportation—or of authorized lists of proscription consigning to forced exile almost all the notabilities of France. The *Moniteur* of Saturday contains decrees, which, at the mere will of the President, banishes sixty-six representatives from France—sends on their travels, until further permission, seventeen more, and sentences to direct transportation to Cayenne, five more. The African generals are released from imprisonment, and conducted across the frontiers. Thus, the usurper decapitates his country at a blow, and at the same moment cuts off her right arm. Monday's *Moniteur* publishes a decree dissolving the National Guards throughout France. The army is petted with a profusion of empty honours—but already begins to despise them.

Our own political affairs are not particularly bright. The Premier is not so provident as the journals gave him credit for. He is not strengthening his Cabinet, nor intending to do so. For all his purposes, we suppose, he is strong enough. He will meet Parliament unchanged. The Privy Council which sat on Saturday, decided upon opening the legislative sessions on Tuesday, February 3rd. We are close, therefore, upon relief from present suspense. Not that we anticipate the communication to Parliament of anything important. The Whigs are not likely to assume a new character, and what their most magnificent promises have amounted to in performance, is well known. Still, we all prefer certainty to uncertainty, even when it brings with it disappointment—and if, like Coleridge, we have been betrayed

by self-love into too indulgent an opinion of others, like him, too, we are thankful at having our mistake revealed to us, even by the rudest exclamation over Norfolk dumplings of "Ah! them's the jockies for me!"

Lord John Russell, who saw so much inconvenience in receiving deputations from particular places on questions of national interest—saw it, that is to say, when the subject was Parliamentary Reform—has added one more to the number of illustrations by which he proved his rule by exceptions. To deputations on Customs reform, on intramural interment, and on the Manchester and Salford local educational scheme, awarded an interview with his lordship since November last, we are now able to add one from the National School Association. We have given from our contemporary, the *Spectator*, an analysis of his speech on the occasion. We dare not, with this before the eye of our reader, offer one of our own—but can almost thank Lord John for his very characteristic effusion, on account of the criticism which it has been the occasion of provoking. The subject on which the deputation addressed his lordship we have noticed more fully in our first page.

Mishaps never come single. When startling accidents happen, they usually happen in clusters. Murder almost always begets murder. Disgraceful disclosures are sure to take place, when they take place at all, "thick and threefold." The Russell Administration is just now specially unfortunate. There is first of all the Kaffir war, which, somehow or other, persists in getting from bad to worse. Sir Harry Smith, whose folly provoked it, shows so little ability to put it down, that at last he is necessarily superseded by Major-General Cathcart. This commander is sent out in a double capacity—civil and military—whereby the civil affairs at the Cape, so long in confusion under the secretariat of Mr. John Montague, will be still left in his hands, and the liberal constitution, likewise delayed to the eleventh hour, will be nullified, so far as official spite can succeed in nullifying it. Then, the *Magæra* steam-ship, despatched from Portsmouth with troops and ordnance stores, breaks down before she gets out of the Channel, puts into Plymouth thoroughly disabled, and sends through the country such a tale of horror, arising from official negligence, as to excite loud indignation. Presently, it turns out that our victualling yard at Gosport, is crammed with canisters of "preserved meat," fit only to be sunk at Spithead to avert the dangers of pestilence—and that the contractor, although, none of his deliveries have proved equal to sample, has been the more largely employed in proportion as his articles have more unequivocally failed in sustaining his professions. Soon it comes out, that the equipment of our troops is as rude and irksome as stupidity can make it—and that in the next European war, if, unhappily, we should be destined to witness another, our army would be useless until provided with better arms, and drilled to a more skilful exercise of them. The "*Amazon*," a splendid new steam-ship, on the West India packet station, perishes by fire at sea, on her first run outward, and it is asserted that but for the prohibition of our Admiralty, she, and the other boats on this line, would have been constructed of iron. Lastly, intelligence reaches us of a wanton attack on Lagos, West Africa, by the crew of one of our slave-cruisers, in which, after a shocking destruction of life, the assailants are compelled to retreat. Every one of these events reflects discredit on the Administration—shows unwise meddling, or absence of official discipline, or gross neglect, or ministerial indiscretion.

These, and such like disasters, the natural result of imbecility at the helm, quicken in the people their desire for Parliamentary Reform. It is a sign of the times, that Oxford and Bristol should be among the foremost cities of England to "pronounce" in favour of a change in the representative system not less extensive than that agreed upon at Manchester. The Reform Association, we perceive, has intimated its intention of convening a conference of reformers, in London, about the commencement of the session. We trust they will wait until Lord John's bill is before the country. If it is a liberal measure, a conference will strengthen him—if a petty one, as is most likely it will go far to damage him. At any rate, we feel convinced, that pending uncertainty, the steam cannot be got up so as to be made use of as an efficient motive power. Men, in general, will not stir till the secret is disclosed.

Several recent trials for murder have resulted in a very unexpected manner. The verdict of the jury which pronounced Thomas Bare guilty of "manslaughter" only, when all the evidence pointed to atrocious and vindictive assassination—the acquittal of Frances Cook, on the ground of a surgeon's opinion, contradicted although it was by palpable facts—and the condemnation of Sarah Hill, on very slight and unsatisfactory evidence, followed by the dogged determination of Sir George Grey to leave her for execution, which, however, we are happy to learn, has at last been overcome—indicate a strange caprice in the action

of law, in relation to these frightful crimes upon the person. Does not this very caprice suggest the disturbing cause? Who can tell how a jury of twelve persons will act, when life and death are in their hands? The press may rail as it will—but the fact remains, and will remain, that death-punishment will ever, in this country, highly civilized as it has become, render the verdicts of juries on cases of murder, as variable as are the sensibilities of those who deliver them. Men of tender feelings will not allow themselves to pronounce judgment as reason would direct, when the blow which follows thereupon is unutterable, irretrievable, and for ever.

We have noticed elsewhere the melancholy loss of the "*Amazon*"—and there remains but one further topic claiming remark—namely, the so-called "strike" of the Engineers and Millwrights. We deplore it—we deem it as unnecessary as we are sure it will prove ruinous—but, as one feature after another of the evidence comes before us, we cannot help suspecting, from the frequent change of ground by the "Amalgamated Committee," that the operatives, as well as the masters, are injured by the intervention of Central Protectors. Large organizations usually fall under the management of clever, but unprincipled adventurers.

EMBARASSING KINDNESS.

"NEVER mind, Ma'am! don't be downhearted I sha'n't leave you. Let folks say what they may, I have made up my mind to stick by the family." With these words, a somewhat trying colloquy between Mistress and Servant is brought to a close, not by any means satisfactory to the former. The lady of the house has been pointing out to Jemima the absolute necessity of some change in domestic arrangements, for the sake of reputation, at least, if not of comfort. Everything seems to go wrong, and all the neighbourhood appears to be aware of it. The steps before the door are invariably dirty—the windows spotted, and dim. In the kitchen there is disorder, and, consequently, waste. Upstairs things are all topsy-turvy. Meals are never brought into the parlour with punctuality. Orders are seldom attended to, and, when they are so, are executed in a slovenly manner. The children, as a fruit of this discomfort, are growing up without the slightest regard to domestic regulations. The trades-people complain. The neighbours indulge in compassionate or ill-natured remarks. But Jemima is a paragon of patience and fidelity. She regards herself as necessary to the family—more necessary, by far, than its mistress. The complaints which reach her, she looks upon as nothing better than the expression of new-fangled notions. For her, she takes pride in being old-fashioned. Her model in all things relating to service is her grandmother, whose traditions she receives and cherishes with veneration. She cannot, consequently, get on with new hands, and it never enters her mind that the disorder and discomfort inflicted upon the household by her system, can weigh a feather against the calamity in which they would be involved by her leaving them. So, in the placidity of her self-conceit, and in a chivalrous sense of fidelity to her superiors, she, the main obstacle to fresh, and more satisfactory, arrangements, determines in her heart, that, come what may, she will not abandon her post. Faithful, but, withal, most provoking Jemima!

The honest-hearted, narrow-minded, pig-headed servant, is an apt type of Lord John Russell. Political affairs are running into hopeless confusion—political prospects are becoming darker and darker. Our relationship to foreign powers is such as no intelligent Englishman can find pleasure in contemplating. There would seem to be a remote possibility of general war. Our colonies are unsettled, even to the verge of rebellion, rendered so chiefly by the vexations wantonly inflicted upon them by home-appointed officers. The late affair at Chagres has involved us in a diplomatic dispute with the United States. The conflict at Lagos discloses a fearful want *somewhere* of executive control over the officers it employs. The Kaffir war goes most unfortunately against us, and every effort we make to bring it to a close, brings to light something utterly disgraceful in our defensive establishments. Our steamers, built at an extraordinary expense, break down on their first trial. The steamers of independent companies, constructed with a view to serve us, and under the disadvantageous terms imposed on their owners by our authority, take fire at sea, or break up under the action of the smallest untoward chance. Our contractors for the victualling department cheat us progressively from year to year. Our Boards of Customs and Inland Revenue persist in proceedings which expose them to contempt. Everything indicates the absence of a master's eye, and a master's hand. The general superintendence of our affairs is committed to Lord John Russell. All goes wrong—complaint comes from every quarter—the necessity for change is apparent to every one—but Lord John is old-fashioned—his policy is that of traditional Whigism. He thinks the country cannot do without him, and to the re-

spectful remonstrances which perpetually make themselves heard, he practically answers, as faithful and provoking as old *Jemima* herself, "Never mind! let things come to the worst, I shall not quit my place."

We are within three weeks of the last session of the present Parliament. Internal dissensions have made a weak Cabinet still weaker. Political parties are so balanced, that the Whig Administration could not exist a day but by sufferance. Grave questions are presently about to claim discussion and settlement. A new Reform Bill has been promised, and must be produced. The Charter of the East India Company, affecting the well-being of a hundred millions of our fellow-creatures, is on the eve of expiring, so that the future government of India must needs be agreed upon and decided by our Legislature within a few months. The Income-tax will again be upon the carpet for renewal or rejection. The quarrel with Lord Palmerston has to be explained and justified. Here surely is enough to call for the best organized efforts of a stable government. Lord John does not appear to see things in any such light; he looks into the threatening darkness, and although his crazy boat is utterly unfit to contend with the coming storm, he smiles in self-complacency, takes no steps to strengthen his feeble craft, but seems to think that he has done his duty to his country and to himself when he has arrived at the magnanimous resolution, to let things remain as they are, and to stick by the ship.

We are informed by semi-official authority, that all the rumours which attributed to his lordship the design of strengthening his administration by the infusion of "fresh blood" were mere moonshine. Nobody of consequence is going out, and, therefore, nobody of consequence can come in. Parliament will be dealt with next session as Parliaments are wont to be dealt with by the Whigs. Change is out of the question—for what change could assert for itself a commanding power to achieve it. The Russell Cabinet has long been a tolerated *pis-aller*—a "Hobson's choice." It is, we suppose, to be so still. The Protectionists can't take the helm without an abandonment of their first principles. The Radicals can't be summoned to office without a renunciation of their extreme views. The Whigs are in possession, and it suits them to remain so, without power to accomplish any needed reformation. So we may expect to see in next session an enlarged edition of the last—a Ministry often defeated but never resigning—made responsible for measures not its own—liberal merely in the clap-traps of Parliamentary oratory—conservative of the abuses which disgrace every department of civil administration—and apparently as indifferent to all the discomfort suffered by the country, as if that discomfort were not the inevitable consequence of its own utter imbecility. To revert to the illustration with which we started—everybody is anxious that *Jemima* would either "turn over a new leaf," or "go away for good." But *Jemima* only tantalizes everybody, by telling them that, although too old to turn over a new leaf, she will not add to the evils of the present moment by quitting her place. No! Things may all go wrong—but she has virtuously resolved that she will "stick by the family."

Where is this most extraordinary folly to end? What can be worse for a country than to be under the government of an old-fashioned traditionalist, who fancies that the country cannot possibly do without him? Our situation would be perfectly laughable, but that it is becoming too serious for jesting. The truth is, Lord John Russell in office is just the keystone of a position which all parties regard as unfortunate, and, possibly, ruinous. Were he but to drop out, some new combination would become imperative—and nothing can be worse in a constitution like ours than a perpetual dead-lock. See what comes of it! Where Ministers are no longer masters, subordinates are no longer servants. Every one does "as seems good in his own eyes." There is strength nowhere, and without strength of what use is law? Where the chief has no will of his own, every dependent does what best suits him. There may be perfect honesty of intention in the Cabinet, but as it is only "of intention," they who serve the Cabinet laugh at, and defy it. The Chancellor of the Exchequer cannot reform his own official Boards. The Colonial Secretary cannot control his distant governors. The Premier is unable to keep in hand the general movements of his own administration. Nothing can beat this state of things, either for inconvenience or for danger. Nothing can make amends for its longer continuance. The country must summon up resolution to speak its mind, and the first utterance of its will should be unmistakable. Let the consequences be what they may, *Jemima shall go*.

THE FIRE AT SEA.

AMONG the forty-nine passengers in the ill-fated "*Amazon*" was Eliot Warburton, author of the "*Crescent and the Cross*," and other works. He had just completed an historical romance ("*Darien*,"

or the Merchant Prince") in which, as though a shadow from the fearful future had stolen over the writer's mind, is twice depicted the terrible conception of a ship on fire. His was a powerful imagination and a plastic pen. He combined in his pictures, with the elemental terrors of the billow and the flame, the fiendly ferocity of man to man—buccaneers pouring fireballs upon the deck of a galleon, and shooting down the crew as they fled despairingly from the burning hull to the rigging, up which they were pursued by serpents of flame. But, with the exception of this unnatural horror, the conceptions of the hapless romancer are surpassed by the terrible realities of his fatal experience. The vessel in which he embarked was possessed of a power that would enable her to progress in spite of adverse gales and through heavy seas;—and that, like all other powers wrested by man from Nature, aggravated, if it did not originate, her overwhelming disaster. When the alarm of fire was given—when the first flash of flame was seen bursting from the engine-room—the ship was plunging through the Atlantic surge, with the wind in her teeth, at the rate of eight and a half knots an hour. Quickly as she could move in obedience to her helm, she was put before the wind, that the flames might not be fanned by the blast of the gale; and then she drove at the accelerated rate of thirteen or fourteen knots. Almost before she could be put about, she was on fire from end to end. It is believed to have been twenty minutes to one o'clock when the alarm was given—ere the midnight hour had run out, not a soul could live upon the deck. Some of the 115 who perished had been suffocated in their berths—others had rushed upon deck half-naked—seamen, firemen, and passengers were all making for the boats. Of those, nine were lowered down—three instantly swamped; the rest drifted off upon the dark and boisterous sea. The largest and best provided of these had but a seaman's jacket hoisted on a oar, for sail; at five o'clock, it was still in the neighbourhood of the burning wreck; and its crew beheld the explosion that for some moments filled the firmament with strange fires, and strewn the waters with fragments of the lately-gallant "*Amazon*."

Public anxiety is, of course, directed immediately to the inquiry, What is the cause of the calamity by which, probably, 115 lives have been sacrificed? and on whom, if on any, can blame be charged? Whether the fire originated in the spontaneous combustion of the merchandise, in the over-heating of the engine-bearings, or in the ignition of vapours issuing from the pine wood of which the upper works were constructed, has not yet been decided, and may possibly never be known. Not the slightest imputation of negligence is made upon any in command or service. Nor did the vessel leave port obviously unfit in any particular for her voyage. Competent officers had certificated her soundness; and she was provided with an unusual number of boats, and with good hand-pumps. Whatever of blameful remark may be made, must therefore be considered as impersonal—as applying to a system, and not, or only in a remote, reflective way, to individuals.

The "*Amazon*" was one of five new vessels, built by the Royal West India Company, for the conveyance of mails. The terms of the Company's contract with Government required that these vessels should be of wood, not of iron—and swift, and therefore slight; the price of the contract necessitated cheapness, as well as ligneous material and slender build. Each vessel was to be of about 2,300 tons measurement, and fitted with engines of 750 horse-power. These two conditions, it is declared, are incompatible with safety;—the size and weight of the machinery are too much for the strength of the vessel, and there is not sufficient surface for evaporating, so that the funnels become intolerably heated. Not only was the "*Amazon*" of wood, instead of iron, but of unseasoned timber, and in great part of fir, the most inflammable of woods. Though she had made one or two short trial trips, she had not been sufficiently exercised for the engine-bearings to have become used to their work; so that they required to be constantly pumped upon—a process which tended, in the opinion of one of the engineers, to make the surrounding wood yet more susceptible of ignition. Her boats were so hung up or fastened down as to be inaccessible without considerable delay; and when got out, their furniture had to be sought for. And, lastly, though some £200 would have fitted up machinery for pouring streams of water in a moment, and by the powerful impulse of the engines, upon any part of the vessel—though for a still less sum, Phillip's apparatus for quenching fire by vapour, might have been provided—the precautions were not taken. The vessel was pronounced competent for her intended work;—extraordinary emergencies—however imminent the peril of their occurrence; however terrible their incidence and consequences—were not regarded. It is with ship-building as with house-building, and every other department of modern industry—the presumed line of safety is reached, but no margin left. The conditions of

labour—that is, the severity of competition—will not permit of a solidity or precaution that may be superfluous. We cannot in this case of the "*Amazon*," throw upon any man, or body of men, a responsibility that would crush them with its weight of agonizing self-reproach; but when we have infinitesimally divided the responsibility and the reproach, there is enough to make every man protest he will not himself, nor suffer Government to be, a party to practices which do not place the care of human life in clause 1 of every contract, and the highest concern in every undertaking.

We have also a present and consoling duty. Let us at once, and liberally, provide for the families of the perished, and supply the wants of survivors. Let us also applaud and congratulate the heroic and the brave. It is a thing to bless God for, that in every scene of extraordinary peril and suffering, some one, at least, is found to display in a high degree the virtues demanded by the exigency—the fortitude that looks death in the face; the courage that anticipates peril to avert or overcome it; the self-devotion that disdains to escape while others may be saved. The figure of young midshipman Vincent, calmly steering his life-boat over the stormy deep, and beneath a dark, inclement sky—hoisting his jacket on an oar, giving his coat to one poor shivering mate and his waistcoat to another—makes a picture to hang side by side with that of Grace Darling. And with all our searchings into natural causes and events—our self-reproach for neglected aids of science, and admiration of heroic deeds—let us not forget to acknowledge Him who administers the laws he has ordained; who is as benign in the fiery tempest as in the sunny calm; and will surely bless every effort to put ourselves in harmony with the conditions of his wondrous, terrible universe.

"LIBERTE, EGALITE, FRATERNITE."

THIS world-famous symbol of French Republicanism is no longer to continue an eyesore in the streets of Paris. Since it was adopted in good faith and intention by Lamartine and his colleagues, it has never ceased to be a standing reproach to every successive government. A mockery it was in the beginning, having no existence in fact—being an impossible Utopia in the then condition of the French nation. Liberty, Equality, Fraternity, forsooth! with a military force of some 600,000 men—with the law of conscription in operation—with 300,000 officials drying up the productive resources of the nation, and all dependent upon the central government—with numerous factions striving not so much to enlighten the public mind as to seize upon the reins of power and use it for the suppression of all opposed to them! The phrase was a description of a mere sentimental feeling arising out of temporary excitement—not a deep settled principle. No statesman besides Lamartine and Louis Blanc can be said to have thought it signified anything else besides a phrase. Now, the inscription is a national humiliation, an ever present sarcasm upon the folly and want of judgment of the people. M. de Morny has therefore wisely ordered its erasure from all public buildings and documents. All outward symbols of the past are hastily and diligently removed, and thus it is the hope is entertained that the last half-century may become a blank page in the recollection of the nation!

It is no doubt very disappointing to see our neighbours so misinformed on the true principles of liberty; so slightly impressible by the teachings of experience; so liable to become the dupes of any charlatan who manages to obtain the upper hand. But we must recollect that national enlightenment is of slow growth. Public opinion based upon the principles of justice is not the offspring of a day, but the product of repeated failures, disasters, and struggles. In the stability of our institutions, in our respect for law, in our toleration of free inquiry, we are no doubt very far in advance of the French. But have we not, as a nation, gone through a protracted and fiery ordeal in reaching our present vantage ground? Our liberties have been won inch by inch during more than two centuries of conflict with opposing influences. In spite of the temporary triumph of the selfishness of the few, represented by military government, royal despotism, and oligarchical rule, the many have become a power in the State, though having but little legal expression. Public opinion has become the ultimate appeal, which all tacitly acknowledge. To a great extent, self-government exists in fact, whatever party holds the reins of office. We have out-grown the institutions of a former day, and it is only a question of a few years when we shall cast the slough of them.

Is not France making progress in the same direction? We believe she is, slowly though it be. To us the temporary ascendancy of a military genius, of an imbecile Bourbon, of a crafty and corrupting Orleanist, of a Republican oligarchy, or of an unprincipled charlatan, is of comparatively little moment, if it is possible to discover beneath these surface-agitations the elements of national

progress. The temperament, habits, and sentiments of the French, their centralized form of government, their subjection to priestly influence, their fondness for military glory, their want of self-reliance, are indeed great obstacles to national advancement. But if they have not yet attained to that elevation where public opinion becomes law, they have at least arrived at a stage at which coercive government is an impossibility. It may triumph for a time, but experience teaches us that its downfall is a certainty. If the reign of justice is not yet established, in justice cannot maintain a permanent footing.

But there are more tangible grounds of hope for the progress of the French nation in the path of genuine freedom. To say nothing of the subsidence of international animosity and jealousy so obvious of late years—of the growing magnitude of commercial relations, of the increasing disinclination to appeals to the sword, of the rising importance of the provincial seats of industry, the spirit in which the usurpation of Louis Napoleon has been received by those classes which comprise the virtue and intelligence of the nation is a symptom of wholesome and improved national feeling. No reasonable man will maintain that in the vote which has installed him in his present position they intended to express approbation of him and his actions. The alternative was Louis Napoleon or anarchy. Nay, to a great extent the only alternative was the usurper or no vote. Even the official returns admit that some 400,000 voted against the President; and when we take into consideration the few hundreds who at the beginning of the present century voted again his uncle, and all the devices by which an adverse decision was made dangerous or impossible, this fact tells favourably for the present state of national feeling. The total return is so manifestly falsified that it is impossible to form any accurate conclusion as to the number who protested against the subversion of the law and constitution to the extent of not voting. And when we see all that is eminent in talent, statesmanship, and literature, holding aloof from Louis Napoleon—the middle classes so far distrusted as to be disarmed—the working men maintaining an attitude of quiet coldness—and the machinery of government made up of boon-companions, needy adventurers, and Algerine generals, we have no right to condemn the French nation as a *particeps criminis* in the daring usurpation, or to jump to the hasty conclusion that because a matchless combination of force and fraud has for a time got possession of the reins of power that the people are hopelessly unfit for self-government.

The onward progress of the French people has been temporarily arrested, perhaps only to insure a more steady advance, and teach them the need of self-reliance to work out their political salvation. They have learned that a pretended reign of "Liberté, Egalité, and Fraternité," in the midst of selfish and rival claims to domination, is a gross delusion—that coercion of differing opinion ends in military despotism, and that dependence upon the sword ends in the supremacy of him who wields it. We hope and believe that when changes again come, as come they must, the result will prove that they have profited by the past, and that those rights and principles which form the solid foundation of freedom have become their watchwords in seeking the realization of "Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité."

If this view of our French neighbours be based upon truth, it behoves us to be on our guard against false alarms, which invite danger and resuscitate international hatred. The old bugbear of a possible invasion of this country by the French is once more revived, and the chimera is based upon the unprincipled character of Louis Napoleon and his advisers, and the assumed ready connivance of the people over whom he rules. That such a desperate enterprise would meet with the ready acquiescence of the President, if his own ambitious aims would thereby be promoted, must be admitted. But the difficulties, the almost certain failure of such a truly desperate expedition, have been so frequently established that we are astounded at such a contingency being again discussed as probable. Besides, the French people are not what they were. To assume that they would gladly applaud an invasion of this country in violation of all international law, without a semblance of provocation and in the teeth of the accumulated evidences of their good will for years past, is a conclusion at which common sense and probability revolts. When there is some real and palpable danger ahead, it is time to guard against it. But if a warlike spirit is to be again evoked, fortifications erected, armies increased, new ships of war set afloat with the accompaniment of a lavish waste of the national resources, jobbing, corruption, and patronage, we shall indeed deserve the consequences of our folly, and find out, when too late, that we have been befooled by designing and interested intriguers.

The army of Russia consists of 1,200,000 men. One man in ten is an "unproductive."

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

GOOD TITTLBAT FISHING IN DOWNING STREET.

(From the Spectator.)

In the next edition of "All Religions and Ceremonies," the editor should notice the modern English custom of "going up in deputation" to a Minister. We have lately seen instances of the practice, in the Islington-Finsbury Deputation to Lord Palmerston, and in the Customs deputation to Lord John Russell; and this week we have the National Public School deputation to the Premier—each different from the others in subject, all alike in the principal traits. A number of gentlemen collect together, go in a body to the official residence, tell the Minister that which he has already perused in the newspapers, and listen while he in turn tells them nothing particular: and it is a remarkable characteristic of the Englishman, that the deputation is almost always delighted with what it has acquired—delighted, though it would find some difficulty in defining what it has acquired.

Yet there is a sort of value in these experiences. It is, for example, instructive in the science of anthropology to witness the evolution of the Ministerial mind. The speculative propositions evolved by Lord John Russell on Tuesday were especially curious and interesting. He expressly stated, that Ministers had not come to any decision on the subject of public education, and that anything which he had to say would be subject to further pondering; a caveat which is cautiously made to override "remarks" consisting almost entirely of negatives. He thinks that the state of education in this country is not such as to be proud of—indeed it is such that we ought to be almost [not quite] ashamed of it; and therefore gentlemen who combine for the purpose of improving it deserve [assistance?—no?] credit, whether they succeed or fail in the attempt. Lord Melbourne's Government carried their proposition by a majority of only two; Sir James Graham failed; Lord John thinks the question is advancing to a solution; but, like the pear, it is not yet ripe for the Government to undertake it. He hopes the Public School Association will persevere in their scheme. The British and Foreign School Society, he observes, think it necessary that instruction in the Bible should be given; the National School Society demand not only the Bible but the Church Catechism and Liturgy; the Wesleyans and others demand the whole Bible. Lord John thinks secular education a good preparative for religious; but, he says, "I have for a very long period belonged to the British and Foreign School Society, and I have very much adopted their views upon the subject: that may be a prejudice on my part." Now which is his opinion—what is it?

The Manchester people do not object to a rate; "a very encouraging circumstance." "I hope you will go on with your scheme; without, of course, pledging myself to any course with respect to it;" but "I hope you will go on," because "I think even failure in schemes of this kind produces very great good." Go on and prosper, is the usual aspiration; go on and fail is Lord John's formula. It seems that he relies much on the resources of failure; which accounts for a good deal in the history of the Whig Government. No doubt, they have still considerable resources of that kind to fall back upon.

One argument is remarkable. Mr. Fox said that the scheme with which Lord John wished them to go on was identical with the scheme of education in Ireland, which is highly successful; and Mr. Fox demanded "justice for England!" The scheme is successful in Ireland, replies Lord John; but "it hardly follows that though it is the best scheme for Ireland, it would be the best scheme for this country." True; but what are the differences that would establish the *non sequitur*? Is it that Popery is paramount among the Irish, Protestantism in England? Is it that the Irish have a prescriptive right to "justice" which is not recognised for England?—Because, in the absence of some practical differences, it does follow that the scheme which would be best for Ireland would be good for England.

However, in spite of his long connexion with the British and Foreign School Society, Lord John does not share the opinions of those who think that there is any hostility between secular and religious instruction; and he begs to say as much "in making objections, if I do make them." Does he, or does he not? It seems that he does not know himself! It is a curious question, which we should like to hear discussed by the members of the deputation. We incline to conjecture that he does not make objections—has none to make. But there is the rub, the difficulty.

The deputation retired, to communicate to its constituents what it had learned. What was that? Especially is it difficult to answer the question, since in stating both sides of each position Lord John premised that he might reconsider his non-conclusion. Lord John is not of this opinion; and he is not of that; and in making objections, if he does make them, he does not think so; and the deputation is authorized to tell the country as much. So the Association may go on and fail; he hopes it will. All of which is very encouraging, and worth coming to London to find out. But of course we must maintain our national customs; among which are the passing of bad laws in Parliament, and the keeping of good laws to discuss in deputations, for the credit of all whom it may concern.

THE IMPOSSIBLE 7,439,216.

(From the Examiner.)

Among the many extraordinary circumstances connected with the present revolution in France, it is not the least of such that M. Louis Bonaparte has been able to gull the people into the belief of his having received the affirmative votes of more than 7,400,000 persons. That he should seek to deceive in this, as he has in many other ways, should not surprise us; but that he should have so completely forgotten the prudent advice offered to a deceiver in the fable, to "keep probability in view," is extraordinary, since he has laid himself open to detection in his falsehood by every one who will be at the pains to examine his figures in connexion with the population returns, which are free to the inspection of every one. The numbers advertised in the *Moniteur* as having voted on the question of his dictatorship, *Oui* or *Non*, are:—

<i>Oui</i>	7,439,216
<i>Non</i>	640,737
<i>Annulés</i>	36,820

Total who voted

8,116,773	
The total population of the eighty-six departments of France at the last census, in 1846, was	35,401,761
From which must be deducted the inhabitants of Corsica, not included in the returns of voters	230,271
	35,171,490

Of this number one-fourth only are men twenty years old and upwards	8,792,872
Deduct further the number given in the French tables as between twenty and twenty-one years ..	308,500

Leaving

8,489,373 as the greatest possible number inscribed as electors capable of voting, being only 372,599 beyond the number who are asserted to have voted, and, consequently, allowing only about one in each hundred of adult males to have abstained from voting. More than one-fourth of the above number, viz., 87,023, are stated in the census returns as being above 85 years of age, and may, on that account, be assumed as unlikely to have voted. In addition to this, there are the sick, and those absent during the days of election from the district in which they were inscribed. A very moderate allowance on these accounts would more than make up the above-named excess of 372,599, without reckoning any of the very numerous class who, upon principle, abstained from voting upon the question, and who, in the department of the Seine alone, are stated to have been 96,819 out of 394,049, the number inscribed in the department. If the proportion who thus abstained is assumed as correct data for the whole of France, then the number who did not vote would be 2,085,863; leaving 6,403,509 as the extreme number whose votes were recorded, or 1,713,264 fewer than the number asserted by M. Bonaparte to have been given. The number of negative votes is stated in the *Moniteur* to have been 640,737, of which number 96,511 were given in the single department of the Seine—about one in three of the total number said to have voted; whereas, in the rest of France, the adverse votes are stated to have been only 544,226, or only one in twenty of the alleged voters! *Credat qui vult.*

MR. CHARLES GILPIN.—We observe that the *Suffolk Chronicle* of last Saturday inserts a letter from this gentleman, in which he states that the report, which had appeared in a previous number of that paper, to the effect that he intended to offer himself as a candidate for the Ipswich borough, was wholly unauthorized by him. Mr. Gilpin, in conclusion, says:—"At present I feel that another constituency has a prior claim on my services. Those who know me will not need to be assured that I neither am, nor will be, a party to any unworthy 'compromise' either with reference to your borough or any other. I am not anxious to get into Parliament. I have no private interest to serve by going there; and, depend upon it, I would not purchase the largest constituency in the kingdom at the cost of my self-respect. When I stand for any constituency (if I ever do), it will be openly, and on the requisition of a public meeting, or a large portion of the liberal electors." We are informed that the constituency referred to in the above letter is Perth, and that a requisition, numerously signed by electors, is ready to be presented to Mr. Gilpin so soon as a vacancy occurs.—*Scottish Press.*

SINGULAR CIRCUMSTANCE.—About 27 or 30 years ago a pair of solid silver candlesticks and a snuffer tray were stolen from the rooms of the Rev. C. Smith, at that time a fellow of St. Peter's College. A few days after the robbery Mr. Smith received a letter in some unknown hand, stating that if he applied at the Britannia public-house and paid £2 or £3, without asking any questions, the property would be restored. The rev. gentleman being conscientious in the matter refused to comply with the request, and immediately set two of the parish constables to watch; they continued to do so for several days and nights, in order to find out whether there was any communication being carried on between the inmates of the house and any of the servants employed in the college, but without success, and the affair was forgotten. On Wednesday last, however, as a man named Sheriff, a labourer, was digging in the fields in Cherryhinton parish, he turned up the identical candlesticks and snuffer tray; and seeing something upon them indicative of the owner, immediately conveyed them to the college, where they were identified by Mr. John Boning, who was occasionally employed by his father, who at the time of the robbery was "gyp" to the owner. The candlesticks are in an excellent state of preservation, and not at all the worse for being buried such a length of time.—*Cambridge Chronicle.*

ROYAL AND MINISTERIAL
MOVEMENTS.

The Queen held a Privy Council at Windsor on Saturday afternoon.

At the Privy Council Parliament was ordered to be further prorogued from the 15th January until Tuesday, the 3rd February, and a proclamation was ordered to be issued summoning the Parliament to meet on that day for the despatch of public business.

The Marquis of Lansdowne had an audience of the Queen previous to the Privy Council. Her Majesty also gave audiences to Lord John Russell, Sir George Grey, Lord Seymour, and Earl Gray.

It is her Majesty's intention to open the session of Parliament in person. The Queen will come to London for the purpose, on the morning of the 3rd, and return in the evening to Windsor, where the Court will remain till the 12th of February.

It was known on Friday, as the result of the Cabinet Council on the previous day, that no change would take place in the Ministry previous to the meeting of Parliament. The semi-official *Observer*, of Saturday, thus expounds the incompleteness of present arrangements:—

There is actually no office in the Cabinet empty. There are two offices, not in the Cabinet, to be filled up. The offices of Paymaster of the Forces and Vice-President of the Board of Trade, as held by Lord Granville, were combined with one salary. There is also an Under-Secretary of State, who, according to law, cannot be a member of the House of Commons. By the statute of Anne it is provided that only two Secretaries of State are to sit in the House of Commons. It may be observed, *en passant*, that the permanent appointment of three Secretaries of State is of a later date. This rule has been held to apply to the Under-Secretaries also, and, as the two gentlemen who fill those offices, Mr. Bouverie and Mr. F. Peel, are in the House of Commons, the third Under-Secretary cannot be a member of that House. The rule was first established on constitutional grounds, although it is an arrangement that a certain school of Ultra-Liberals now denounce as more honoured in the breach than in the observance. But, at all events, there it is; and it may, perhaps, become a question whether it is useful or injurious in thus limiting the selection of the Crown with respect to those offices in the State that are called "Parliamentary." There it is, however; and this, with the offices just vacated by Earl Granville, are all the offices to be filled up at present.

Sir James Graham left Netherby Hall for London, says the *Newcastle Journal*, by the express train on Tuesday. It is understood that he was sent for by Lord John Russell to lend him a helping hand. The gentleman who came for him was a stranger, but apparently a man of rank, as he travelled in the same carriage with Sir James, and they occupied the whole of it, a board being attached to the door with the notice that the moving council-chamber was "engaged," and not to be intruded upon by ordinary mortals.—The *Observer* explains that Sir James simply came to town to attend a sitting of the Chancery Commission, and denies that he has held any interview with Lord John Russell.

Major-General the Hon. George Cathcart, Lieut.-Governor of the Tower, has been sent out to supersede Sir Harry Smith in Kafiraria. The *Times* remarks on this appointment:—

One might naturally have expected that an officer of considerable experience in the peculiar species of warfare practised at the Cape would have been appointed to the command. The little service that General Cathcart ever witnessed—about forty years ago—was entirely involved in military operations on the largest scale. Nor does he appear throughout his brief campaigns to have acted in any other capacity than as a staff officer. In the years 1813-14, Lieutenant Cathcart, then a very young man, acted as aide-de-camp to his father, Lord Cathcart, who was present with the allied armies as a kind of English Commissary. He was present at Lutzen, Bautzen, Dresden, and Leipzig, in 1813; and throughout the advance into France, in the early part of 1814. In 1815 Lieutenant Cathcart acted as aide-de-camp to the Duke of Wellington, and witnessed the battles of Quatre Bras and Waterloo. All the military operations named were, of course, on the most gigantic scale, but what instruction could they afford in the art of bush-fighting at the Cape? We can readily conceive that some of our Indian officers might have found themselves comparatively at home in the sharp skirmishes of Southern Africa. The case seems very different with a young staff officer of the great German campaign of 1813. We cannot but notice the appointment as a strange one, considering the magnitude of the interests involved, and the comparative disgrace to the British arms which so far has been the result of the operations.

DEFENCE OF THE METROPOLIS AND THE COAST.

—A writer at Woolwich, who makes his communication to the *Daily News* and the *Morning Post* simultaneously, states that the Duke of Wellington and Sir John Burgoyne have been for some days past in almost daily communication and deliberation on the best means of protecting the Metropolis in case of invasion; "and the result has been, that several military camps are likely to be formed round London, and eligible situations will be selected, particularly on the Kent and Essex banks of the Thames, and on the banks of the Medway, with the ultimate view of rendering them permanently fortified camps." The writer adds, that it is intended to augment the Artillery service by twenty-four companies, or about 2,400 men, and the regiments of the Line by 10,000 men. The *Portsmouth Times* states that two batteries, each for 100 guns of heavy metal, are to be constructed "with the least possible delay," at the Nab Light, off Bembridge, near Spithead, and at Lumps, also off Spithead.

TRIALS AND POLICE CASES.

The narrowness and faintness of the boundary-line between murder and manslaughter is strikingly evidenced in the trial of Thomas Bare, of Marylebone, who was tried, on Thursday last, at the Central Criminal Court, for the murder of his wife. We detailed the circumstances attending the poor woman's death at the time when the melancholy occurrence took place, and need not, therefore, now repeat more of the voluminous evidence adduced at the trial than is necessary to show with what purpose the prisoner visited his wife, and the nature of the wounds of which she died. Mrs. Nott, the mother of the murdered woman, deposed, that when the prisoner inquired of her where his wife was, "he said he would be revenged." Mary Robinson deposed, that she was acquainted with the prisoner and his late wife, and after she left him he repeatedly inquired respecting her. About a fortnight before witness heard of the death of the deceased, the prisoner came to her house, and asked her if she knew where his wife was. She told him she did not, and he then said that his wife was in the country nursing an old lady a hundred miles off, and he added that he did not mind tramping a hundred miles to have revenge, for revenge was sweet. In the course of the same conversation the prisoner said that if he could lay his hand upon his wife she would not forget it. Rebecca Lineham proved, that shortly before the death of the deceased, a man, whom she believed to be the prisoner, purchased a file at her husband's shop. He first purchased a flat file, but on the same day changed it for a triangular file. The file with which the dreadful act was committed was here produced, and the witness said it was of the same description as the one she sold to the man, but could not identify it further. A man, named Russell, who was in the shop when the file was bought, expressed his belief also that the prisoner was the purchaser. Selina Beckett, an eye-witness of the struggle between the prisoner and his wife, deposed that she saw the prisoner and the deceased standing by the window fighting, and the prisoner struck the deceased several heavy blows. They both fell down together, and the deceased appeared to be holding the prisoner. She did not see the deceased strike a blow, or attempt to do so. All she could see of the prisoner's hand was his clenched fist, and she was unable to distinguish whether there was anything in it or not. The prisoner struck downwards, as though he was stabbing, and the deceased screamed "Murder!" every time he struck her. Witness requested a boy, who was the prisoner's companion, to interfere, but he said he should not do so, and that it served the woman "jolly well right." The deceased attempted to get up at one time, and the prisoner struck her four or five heavy blows on the head and face. The prisoner passed witness as he went out of the house, but she was too frightened to observe whether he had anything in his hand or not. She saw the deceased on the ground, and the room was covered with blood. About ten minutes afterwards she heard that the deceased was dead. Goff, a policeman who assisted in taking the prisoner into custody, stated that the prisoner had said that his wife took a chisel, or something of that sort, to strike him with, and he dragged it from her, and "gave her the contents." Mrs. Hands, who lived in the same house as the deceased, and knew her well, never saw such an instrument as the file now produced in her possession. Mr. N. Davidson, the surgeon, described the condition of the unfortunate deceased. She was quite dead when he arrived, and blood was flowing from a number of wounds upon her person. There were sixteen wounds upon the face and front of the trunk, and several others in the back. All the wounds were of a triangular shape, and were such as would be produced by a file. One of the ribs on the left side was broken, and upon opening the body he discovered that the pulmonary artery was severed. That injury alone was sufficient to account for death. The prisoner was defended by Mr. Ballantine, who contended that several of the prisoner's acts were inconsistent with a murderous purpose, and witnesses were called who gave him a character for humanity and general good conduct. The jury deliberated for nearly an hour and a half, and then, in the teeth of the above evidence, returned a verdict of "Manslaughter." Mr. Baron Platt, who tried the case, seemed at a loss to account for the decision of the jury, and sentenced the prisoner to transportation for life.

In the same Court, on Wednesday, an illustration was given of the occasional peril of the innocent. A policeman, named Moss, was indicted for perjury in the case of two young men, named Francatelli and Adam, whom he had taken into custody on a charge of picking pockets at Drury-lane Theatre, on the night of the 10th of December. The original case was heard before the magistrate at Bow-street, and eventually the charge was dismissed, on which the present action was brought. The evidence on this occasion tended to show that the defendant had in all probability been mistaken as to the language and hearing of the supposed thieves, and an excellent character having been given him, he was acquitted; Mr. Baron Platt observing, at the same time, that there did not appear to be any foundation for the supposition that the young men were actuated by any guilty intention while they were in the theatre.

A conviction of perjury under the new law of evidence, has been made at the Middlesex Sessions. Henry Allen had been in the habit of purchasing the patent fuel manufactured by a Mr. Walstab, and in December last he was summoned to the Westminster County Court for a sum of £1 6s. 8d. for

wood that had been furnished to him in the month of December, 1850. When the hearing took place witnesses were examined, who proved that the defendant had ordered the fuel, that it was delivered to him at his shop, and that he signed the delivery-book acknowledging its receipt, and also that when he was applied to shortly afterwards for the amount, he said he would look over the bill, and pay it the next time the collector called. In answer to this case, the defendant himself was sworn, and he then gave evidence, denying all knowledge of the transaction, declaring that he had never ordered or received the fuel, and that he had never seen the persons who had been examined as witnesses to prove the debt. The Judge of the County Court decided in favour of the claim, and ordered the defendant to pay the debt and costs forthwith, and he, at the same time, directed that an indictment for perjury should be preferred against the defendant. All the witnesses that had been called in the County Court were now examined, and the evidence given by the defendant was likewise put in, establishing the facts above narrated. Some witnesses were called for the defence, to show that the signature in the delivery-book was not the prisoner's handwriting, but their evidence was very far from establishing the fact. They all, however, gave him a very good character. The learned Judge, in summing up, said it was no part of his duty, or that of the jury, to discuss the policy or impolicy of the law which permitted persons to be witnesses in their own cause; but it was perfectly clear that, while the law gave persons in that position the right to appear as witnesses, it was the duty of all to take care that any wilful deviation from the truth should be punished in a manner likely to prevent a repetition of the offence. The jury returned a verdict of Guilty, but recommended the defendant to mercy on account of his previous good character. The prisoner was brought up for judgment the next day, and sentenced to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for a year.

A case of ingenious robbery was also tried at these sessions. Aldborough Richardson Davis, aged thirty, stated to be a wine-merchant, was charged with having stolen in a dwelling-house twenty dozens of port wine, of the value of £40, the property of Mary Ann Paas. The prosecutrix stated that, four years since she had purchased half-a-pipe of port-wine, which, upon being bottled, had corks sealed with green wax, and that, when the prisoner had taken possession of her house, as a tenant, in August last, there were twenty-seven dozens still remaining in her cellar which was sealed up. The cellar-door had been cut from top to bottom, the part with the seals on being totally undisturbed, and the whole of the wine, with the exception of half-a-dozen bottles, taken away. The prisoner sold a quantity of wine to a wine-merchant at either 32s. or 35s. per dozen, and it would seem, as though to avoid the identification of the wine, that the tops of the corks had been cut off, for all the corks of the prosecutrix's bottles had been sealed in the usual way, and when discovered after the robbery each seal had been sliced off the end of the cork. Mr. Parry, in addressing the jury for the prisoner, contended that the wine sold had not been sufficiently identified as the wine of which the prosecutrix had been robbed. The jury returned a verdict of Guilty. Mr. Ballantine then stated that the prisoner had been tried in that court a short time since upon a charge of stealing a pony and chaise. Mr. Parry—"Yes, but he was acquitted on that occasion." The learned judge remarked, that probably that acquittal had induced the prisoner to try to steer as near as he could upon the borders of the law without actually committing a felony. In this instance, however, he had gone too far. The sentence upon him was imprisonment for six months, with hard labour.

The strong prejudice frequently displayed twenty years since against dissection appears to be unabated among the Irish poor. A poor widow, named Mary Sheridan, has gone twice before Mr. Yardley, at the Thames Police Court, to complain of the conduct of the authorities of the London Hospital, who had caused the body of her late husband to be dissected. The man died in the hospital on Sunday, the 28th ult., and when his widow applied for his body for the purpose of "waking" and burying it, the people in the hospital refused to deliver it to her, and one of the medical gentlemen asked her if she had any objection to the body being opened. She expressed the very strongest objections to such a proceeding, and said, her husband, previous to his going into the hospital, said he would not, on any consideration, have his body opened. Mr. Yardley asked if the body had been delivered to the widow? Mrs. Sheridan: Yes, and buried, your worship. Mr. Yardley: What do you want me to do? Mrs. Sheridan: I want redress, your Honour, for cutting up my husband's body in the way they have done. It was against his wishes. Can they do it? Mr. Yardley: But, my good woman, it is done, and you can't remedy it. It is a pity, I think, you did not consent to it; but I don't wish to insult any prejudices you may have on the subject. Mrs. Sheridan: They did it shamefully, your Worship. Can't you punish them for it? Mr. Yardley said he had no jurisdiction in the matter at all. He had no power to interfere. An Officer: If she goes to the hospital at one o'clock to-morrow the committee will hear her. Mrs. Sheridan (passionately): Very well; there is no justice here at all for a poor woman.—She then hurriedly left the Court with her friends, who were greatly excited.

The Senatus of Heidelberg University have conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon the Rev. W. M'Kerrow, of Manchester.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXTRACTS.

SIR ROBERT PEEL AS AN ORATOR.

As an orator, Sir Robert Peel had, perhaps, the most available talent that has ever been brought to bear in the House of Commons. We have mentioned that both in exposition and in reply he was equally eminent. His statements were perspicuous, complete, and dignified; when he combated the objections or criticised the propositions of an opponent, he was adroit and acute; no speaker ever sustained a process of argumentation in a public assembly more lucidly, and none as debaters have united in so conspicuous a degree of prudence with promptness. In the higher efforts of oratory, he was not successful. His vocabulary was ample and never mean; but it was neither rich nor rare. His speeches will afford no sentiment of surpassing grandeur or beauty that will linger in the ears of coming generations. He embalmed no great political truth in immortal words. His flights were ponderous; he soared with the wing of the vulture, rather than the plume of an eagle; and his perorations when most elaborate were most unwieldy. In pathos, he was quite deficient; when he attempted to touch the tender passions, it was painful. His face became distorted, like that of a woman who wants to cry but cannot succeed. Orators certainly should not shed tears, but there are moments when, as the Italians say, the voice should weep. The taste of Sir Robert Peel was highly cultivated, but it was not originally fine; he had no wit, but he had a keen sense of the ridiculous and an abundant vein of genuine humour. Notwithstanding his artificial reserve, he had a hearty and a merry laugh, and sometimes his mirth was uncontrollable. He was gifted with an admirable organ, perhaps the finest that has been heard in the house in our days, unless we except the thrilling tones of O'Connell. Sir Robert also modulated his voice with great skill. His enunciation was very clear, though somewhat marred by provincialisms. His great deficiency was want of nature, which made him often appear even with a good cause more plausible than persuasive, and more spacious than convincing. He may be said to have gradually introduced a new style into the House of Commons which was suited to the age in which he chiefly flourished, and to the novel elements of the assembly which he had to guide. He had to deal with greater details than his predecessors, and he had in many instances to address those who were deficient in previous knowledge. Something of the lecture, therefore, entered into his displays. This style may be called the didactic.

After his fall, in the autumn of '46, when on a visit to one who had opposed his policy but who was his friend, sauntering with his host and sitting on a style, Sir Robert Peel spoke very fully of the events that had just occurred. He said then, and was then in the habit of saying, though it was quite a self-illusion, that nothing should ever induce him to accept power again. And he gave among many interesting reasons for arriving at this conclusion, not only the untimely end of so many of his predecessors, significant of the fatal trust, but a consciousness on his own part that his debating powers were declining. But this would seem to have been a false judgment. Sir Robert Peel encountered in '46 an opposition which he had not anticipated and partly carried on in a vein in which he did not excel. To be bearded, sometimes, worsted, in that scene where he had long reigned paramount, at the moment galled and mortified him, and he accounted for the success of his opponents by the decay of his own powers. But Sir Robert Peel made some of his most considerable efforts in the great struggle of '46; and it may be a question whether his very best speeches were not those which he made during the last three years of his life. They were more natural than his speeches either as Minister or as leader of opposition. There was more earnestness and more heat about them, and much less of the affectation of plausibility.

One cannot say of Sir Robert Peel, notwithstanding his unrivalled powers of despatching affairs, that he was the greatest Minister this country ever produced, because, twice placed at the helm, and on the second occasion with the Court and the Parliament equally devoted to him, he never could maintain himself in power. Nor, notwithstanding his consummate Parliamentary tactics, can he be described as the greatest party leader that ever flourished among us, for he contrived to destroy the most compact, powerful, and devoted party that ever followed a British statesman. Certainly, notwithstanding his great sway in debate, we cannot recognise him as our greatest orator, for in many of the supreme requisites of oratory he was singularly deficient. But what he really was, and what posterity will acknowledge him to have been, is the greatest member of Parliament that ever lived.

Peace to his ashes! His name will be often appealed to in that scene which he loved so well, and never without homage even by his opponents.

EXECUTION OF CHARLES I.—In a letter which is preserved in the State Paper Office, addressed to Secretary Bennet, by Lord Ormonde and the Council of Ireland, and dated the 29th of April, 1663, their lordships request the Secretary to move his Majesty that "Henry Porter, then known as Marshal General Porter, standing charged as being the person by whose hand the head of our late Sovereign King Charles the First, of blessed memory, was cut off, and now two years imprisoned in Dublin, should be brought to trial in England."—J. F. F.—Notes and Queries.

LITERATURE.

PERIODICALS (JANUARY).

[SECOND NOTICE.]

THE WESTMINSTER AND FOREIGN QUARTERLY REVIEW has been transferred to other hands since its last issue, and the present number appears under new editorial management. From the farewell letter of the late proprietor, and the prospectus of his successors, we learn that the general character of the Review will undergo no material alteration, and that, free from party-bias, it will strive to recognise, in all departments, the Law of Progress, and to secure for it becoming reverence and practical regard. In social economy and politics, it will be the advocate of such gradual changes as, from "a comparison of the actual with the possible," would seem to be expedient—while larger space than heretofore will be devoted to the free discussion of questions relating to speculative philosophy and religion. These subjects have severally furnished interesting topics, which are handled with considerable ability in the articles composing the present number. Under the head of Politics, "Representative Reform" ably exposes, in anticipation of the new bill, the patchwork character of the old act—and that the inequality of representation, both in boroughs and counties, and the monstrous disproportion of electors to non-electors, which it perpetuated, have demoralized our constituencies. M. Guizot's late work on the "Representative Governments of Europe," furnishes material for the historical sketch at the commencement of the article, from which it may be learned, that neither Conservative nor Radical will find, at any past period of the nation's existence, a perfect model of representation, according to their respective notions of what it ought to be, and that, in proportion as statesmen have been wise and patriotic, they have endeavoured, by enlarging the basis of representation, to bring the will of the majority into harmony with our laws and institutions. "The Latest Continental Theory of Legislation," examines the plan now in vogue among some European Democrats, of substituting direct legislation by the people for representative legislation. Though disapproving the remedy, it concurs with its authors in attributing to the usurping tendencies of the latter principle a large share of the encroachments on liberty which have been lately witnessed; and suggests that "no reform is more needful than to lessen the business of Parliament—to share its duties and powers, and to confine it to laying down principles only, leaving it to local legislatures and magistrates to apply them in detail." "France" is a powerfully written, but harrowing description of the state of the rural classes, and the spread of pauperism in that country. It shows "that a new property system is indispensable there, and that as long as the present one is retained, property will be an illusion, the family institution a mockery, and religion a superstition for the great majority of the agricultural population." The writer believes that the progressive party alone comprehend and are equal to grapple with the difficulties of its social condition, and describes it as "deeply imbued with philanthropic sentiment and religious enthusiasm." The "Relation of Employers and Employed" is a good specimen of analytic reasoning and of healthy moral sentiment. Having accurately ascertained the basis on which the relation rests at present, that, namely, of contract between equal and independent parties, the primary obligation which results from it is shown to be, on the part of employers, the successful management of their business, and that it is not wise or fair to expect of them, that other secondary objects, though of a more benevolent aspect, should be allowed to override this, which is indispensable to the attainment of any other. "Julia von Krudener," anxious to dispose of the fact of religious conversions, broadly asserts the unchangeableness of individual natures, and oracularly declares that he that is unholy must remain unholy still. This strange doctrine is thus briefly stated, and will serve as sufficient sample of the whole article:—

"We believe in intellectual conversions, and, to a certain extent, in gradual modifications of the moral nature; but we assert, that it is in defiance of all sound psychology to believe in a sudden moral conversion following upon an intellectual one. Once let man arrive at maturity with any distinctive characteristic, and it is idle to hope that he will change it. Physiology will teach us that it is impossible. Sorrow turning his thoughts inwards, or calamity shattering his pride and confidence, may effect great changes in the outward manifestations, but they will not alter the inward nature—they may make the irreligious soul fanatical, they will not make it religious—they may make pride 'ape humility,' they will not make the spirit humble. There may be repentance, there may be sorrowing remorse, but there cannot be change. The notorious sinner metamorphosed into a saint is only a change of attitude, not a change of being—a change most beneficial, who will deny? but, nevertheless, not the thing it is commonly taken for."

For exquisite beauty of style, and generally elevated tone of remark, the "Ethics of Christendom" is pre-eminently attractive; and, though

exception must be taken to many of the writer's positions, will repay careful reading. Describing the fundamental idea of Christianity to be "the ascent through conscience into communion with God," and that the living realization of this sentiment by Jesus Christ has invested Christian ethics with their distinctive greatness, its beneficial results in the region of applied morals are sketched with a master-hand. In the following extract its force as an argument for human rights is thus eloquently discoursed:—

"Were man only the choicest, most intelligent, most gregarious of the mammalia; were the theory of his affairs a mere extension of natural history; we might reasonably discuss, in Aristotle's way, the conditions under which he may be fitly put in harness. But there is in him an element that takes him beyond the range of a Pliny or a Cuvier—that lifts him out of the kingdom of nature, and gives him kindred with the preternatural and the divine. He is not simply an instrument for achieving a given fraction of a universal end, but has a sacred trust which, on its own account, he is empowered and commissioned to discharge. He is watched by the eyes of infinite Pity and Affection; braced for his faithful work; succoured in his fiercest temptations. The conditions of dutiful, loving, noble life must be preserved to him. Let his task, indeed, be suited to his powers; and if he cannot rule, by all means let him serve; but still with a margin and play of spiritual freedom secure from encroachment and contempt. Those on whom Heaven lays the burden of duty no power on earth may strip of rights. The conscience with which the Highest can commune, the spirit which is not too mean for his abode, can be no object of slight or scorn for men. By law and usage you may have the disposal of another's lot and labour; but in the reality of things the lord of a province may be less than the conqueror of a temptation. You may be Greek, and be barbarian; but in the heraldry of the universe, the blood of Agamemnon is less noble than than the spirit of a saint."

"Mary Stuart" censures and neutralizes the attempt of later biographers, particularly of Mignet, to vindicate the character of that unfortunate princess at the expense of Elizabeth's fair fame. "Shell Fish, their Ways and Works" is a pleasant excursion into a region of natural history not much frequented. The articles on "Contemporary Literature" are a useful and instructive feature of the new publication.

THE JOURNAL OF SACRED LITERATURE abounds in matter specially valuable to theologians, and which intelligent Scripture-readers will read with great pleasure. Erudite articles on controversial topics—the latest results of critical investigation, and of the researches of travellers and historians—correspondence—notice of contemporary literature—intelligence pertaining to the objects to which the review is devoted, all betoken a unity of purpose carried out with diligence, judgment, and skill. The principal contents of the present number are, "The Relative Authority of the Hebrew and Greek Scriptures of the Old Testament"—"The Ministry of Angels," in which a bird's-eye view is taken of all the principal passages of Scripture relating to the subject—"Solomon's Song," a popular philological review—"The Voice of Israel from the Rocks of Sinai"—"The Serpent"—which rejects the popular opinion that the tempter of Eve was a serpent possessed by Satan, and maintains that the Scriptures do not sanction the belief that any other being than the serpent was concerned in the temptation—"The Repthaim, and their Connexion with Egyptian History," a continuation—"Characteristics of Miracles," in which the recent lectures of Dr. Cumming and John Henry Newman are ably reviewed—"Ancient Oriental Palaces"—"The Last Vision of Ezekiel," a notice of Mr. Fairbairn's work, "which redeems our literature from the reproach of having no commentary grappling with the difficulties" of Ezekiel's writings—and "Critical Remarks upon the Common Translation and Interpretation of Matt. v. 21, 22."

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE is, barring its Toryism, more than usually attractive this month. There are two political articles—one on our political and monetary prospects, which are, of course, described as being gloomy enough; the other on Mr. Disraeli's "Biography of Lord George Bentinck." The first-named article, in the true spirit of Toryism, asks, "Where is the necessity for the new Reform Bill? What can excuse the unprecedented step of voluntarily offering the nation a vast increase of popular power, when it is notorious that nobody was asking for it, and it is alleged that everybody is satisfied with the measures which the reformed Parliament has adopted." "This, it is added, can admit of but one solution—viz., that the Government is afraid of being in a minority at the next election, and, therefore, is ready to throw everything into confusion to avert the catastrophe. The first effect of household suffrage will, it is asserted, be a return to Protection; and the second, the confiscation of the property of the freeholders! Albert Smith has chosen the pages of Blackwood to give his own, full, true, and particular account of an "Ascent to Mont Blanc," which attracted more than usual notice at the time. The achievement is certainly rendered more respectable by the fact that Mr. Smith has for years had a passion for Alpine scenery, visiting it almost yearly, and that it had long been with him an object of desire to make an excursion

which he since looks upon with complacency, and recommends to all whose lives and constitution will permit them, to follow his example. "Dramas by William Smith" is a very eulogistic review of works the great merit of which has been obscured by the unpromising name of the author. The other papers are, "Rural Superstitions of Western France"—"Struggles for Fame and Fortune"—"Husbands, Wives, Fathers, and Mothers."

The HERALD OF PEACE contains as usual, several spirited articles, and much interesting information. Of the former, those entitled "What's to be done in Kaffraria"—"The Uses of a Standing Army"—and "How the French Army is composed," are the most important. This last, which is the production of a French writer, is particularly worthy of perusal just now. Of the system pursued to obtain substitutes for the conscription it is declared:—

"It is a perfect pandemonium, where intrigues, conspiracies, threats, and over-reaching each other, are constantly carried on. A veritable cavern of banditti! Blasphemies and hideous cries resound there. Blood flows. Drunkenness leads to cruelty. Avarice, exasperated by lust, lets loose all frightful passions. The police rush in. The prison opens and shuts, shuts and opens continually. The magistrate inflicts punishment and disgrace. Oh! what a scene of misery, vice, and ignorance!"

The bearing of this horrid system on the political interests of the people is thus pointed out:—

"Do you see how the sons of the trading-classes get themselves replaced in the army by their implacable adversaries, thus themselves introducing the instruments of social dissolution? Are they not, perhaps, arming their enemies against the interests of their own preservation and their own future? The army is essentially democratic; the labourers of the field and work-shop predominate there. The trades-people (*la bourgeoisie*) ought anxiously to seek to neutralize the popular element. I submit this aspect of the question to their meditation. And yet, let us not forget that the right of replacing, by substitute, the son of the capitalist, of the merchant, of the manufacturer, of the proprietor, of the magistrate, is a commercial privilege, to which the people hold as eagerly for the sake of gain, as those do to whom, by means of the man-dealers, they sell the possession and liberty of their own existence."

THE BRITISH JOURNAL makes its first appearance this month.

"Few attempts" (says the prospectus) "have been made to establish a literature at once cheap and good, healthful and pleasing, for that educated multitude which has recently grown into existence among the middle and humbler classes of the community; and a host of low-priced, and generally worthless, publications have consequently sprung up, to flourish like weeds on the rich soil, which demands only culture and plantation to bear the noblest fruits of mental industry and genius."

There is some good and pleasant writing in the number, and the names of Frank Fairleigh, Charles Swain, Mrs. Cowden Clarke, Frances Brown, and Miss Costello, are among the authors; but we must wait for further numbers to judge of the practical value of the work.

THE BIOGRAPHICAL MAGAZINE is another novelty—the editor expressing surprise that among the multiplicity of periodicals there is no one exclusively devoted to biography. The contents of the present number are, "Louis Napoleon," "Richter," "John Banim," "Marshal Soult," "The Bishop of Norwich," and "Louis Kossuth," with an addition of "The Last Words of Great Men." These biographies are all well-written, but are necessarily brief, and display various degrees of merit.

Part X. of THE IMPERIAL CYCLOPEDIA, comprises articles from "James Town to Leicestershire," and includes important articles on Kent, Lancashire, Leeds, and Leicester.

THE GARDEN COMPANION is a handsomely got-up periodical, with engravings and coloured plates.

The Revelation of St. John, Expounded for those who Search the Scriptures. By E. W. HENGSTENBERG, Doctor and Professor of Theology in Berlin. Translated from the Original, by the Rev. PATRICK FAIRBAIRN. Vol. I. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.

THE Exposition of the Revelation of St. John has been lately an interesting and much-controverted subject in this country. Sweeping as the assertion may seem, we do not hesitate to say, that confusion and absurdity have chiefly prevailed in the schemes of interpretation which have been most boldly proposed, most ingeniously defended, and most popular with English theologians and general readers. Opinion is far from settled on the matter, even amongst those who follow the same mode of interpretation;—as might be instanced from the numerous works of writers adopting the *continuous* scheme, according to which the book contains a progressive history, in part already fulfilled, but in great part, also, yet to be fulfilled. At the first step to an interpretation, we find no slight differences of opinion;—thus, the time of its composition and its authorship are questions on which exist wider diversities than on almost any other matter belonging to New Testament Introduction. Even Dr. Davidson has reversed in the third volume of his "Introduction," the

judgment he pronounced as to its date, in his article in Kitto's Cyclopædia;—formerly, he held that it was written during the reign of Nero; now he decides in favour of the reign of Domitian. Under these circumstances, we think Mr. Clark has done well to bring out, without delay, this able translation of the most recent work on this controverted book; recommended to the students of this country, as it is, by the well-known learning and piety of the author, and by the emphatic remark of Dr. Davidson, that it is, in his view, "the only work which approaches the true scope and sense of the Apocalypse"—"tracing the right lines of a correct interpretation."

The sole purpose of Hengstenberg's Introduction to his Commentary, is to determine the historical starting-point of the book—the time and circumstances of its composition. All other special investigations are reserved for concluding treatises, to be contained in the second volume. The author enters very fully into the various evidence on which this starting-point is to be decided. He shows that the opinion of antiquity was almost uniform as to Domitian's being the author of John's banishment, and that the composition was referred to his reign; and from an examination of the internal testimonies, he concludes that this view alone has solid grounds to support it,—as it also affords the clearest insight into the whole scope, and the particular parts of the book.

Assuming this to be the point whence is gained the genuine historical interpretation of the Apocalypse, Hengstenberg adduces proofs, that, while earlier Roman emperors had made approaches to a claim to be considered on an equality with the gods, Domitian far surpassed all in extravagantly urging his right to be called God,—placing statues of himself on the most sacred sites in the temples, and treating as guilty of misdemeanour those who dared to deny his impious claim. He looked with jealousy on Christianity, and persecuted the Christians, from a desire to repel the invasion made by the new religion on the sovereignty and pretended divinity of the state. The bloody persecution so organized throughout the whole of Christendom, brought the Church into a life or death struggle with the imperial powers. The pretensions of the emperor were garnished by some of the philosophers of his time, and a scientific colour given to his divine claims. The great world-power was assisted in its operations against Christianity by the prevailing world-wisdom. Fitly enough was such a most savage monster—impious beyond the endurance of heathens themselves—depicted as the terrible beast, full of names of blasphemy; and fitly was the pretended wisdom that stood ready to serve him in his delinquencies represented as a false prophet, persuading to the worship of the beast, giving spirit to the image of the beast, and accomplishing the death of those who would not worship his image.

Hengstenberg, therefore, regards the Revelation as a symbolic representation of the conflict of the World-power with the Kingdom of Christ; intended to quicken and strengthen those to whom the author primarily wrote, and to enable them, amidst general persecution, to bring fully into exercise the patience of faith, and to abide in the hope of the coming glory. In opposition to the *historizing* mode of interpretation—which seeks in the unfolding history of the world for individual and specific fulfilments of the prophecies, and correspondences to the symbols of the book—he treats the whole as an *ideal representation*, which is to be realized in history in a *whole series of both persons and events*; so that no one historic person embodies finally, nor any isolated historic event fulfils in itself, the visions of the inspired seer.

Hengstenberg is "aware that this work is destined to meet with much disfavour from many who are united with him in faith." He thinks it even possible that his attack on expositions—Bengel's for instance—which have taken very deep root in the Church, may be regarded by some as an attack on the Revelation itself. This kind of treatment is not unusual in England; it has been suffered by both Stuart and Davidson, with reference to this same portion of the Scriptures. But we are unwavering in our expectation that—according to Hengstenberg's confidence in putting forth this work—the method of exposition herein attempted "*will by and by make way*." The fanciful and arbitrary interpretations which disfigure almost every volume on the Apocalypse generally known in this country, are too perplexed and outrageous to maintain a hold on the growing intelligence and more scientific spirit now brought to Biblical studies. This last attempt at a true exegesis opens up a new and luminous path, and will be more powerful in the production of a better school of interpreters, than anything by which it has been preceded. A rational, consistent, and satisfying exposition is here, almost for the first time, obtained.

The qualities of Hengstenberg's sagacious mind, and the deep learning he brings to his labours, are alike known to biblical students—of them we need not speak. But this Commentary differs in many respects from the author's work on the Psalms; it

is less critical, containing but little of a grammatical nature; it is fuller in explanation, richer and more various in style; and, while rigid in its investigations, and profound in its development of thought, it is so simple and clear as to be adapted to the use of all intelligent persons. Indeed, its title was designed to express, that Hengstenberg intends it for all who *search* the Scriptures, earnestly desirous of knowing their full significance. To many such readers it will be a great boon,—but to students and ministers it is invaluable; and to the Church at large it is Hengstenberg's most precious gift, and incomparably the safest and most edifying guide to the "treasures of counsel and comfort" contained in "the wonderful depths of this sacred book."

The translator is possessed of many more qualifications than are usual with one discharging his office; his own eminence as an expositor of Old Testament prophecy, and his thorough familiarity with the mind and style of Hengstenberg, render him the fittest and most reliable person for the important task he has so admirably performed in this volume.

Lady Felicia: A Novel. By HENRY COCKTON. London: Office of the National Illustrated Library, 227, Strand.

LADY Felicia, daughter of the Marquis of Kingsborough, falls in love with Mr. Alfred Murray, a handsome and intelligent draper's assistant, with whom she had chanced to be an occasional playmate in childhood, in consequence of the Marquis having rewarded Mr. William Murray, his father, for his "vote and interest" at a Sudbury election, by standing godfather to his son. The love affair is persevered in, in spite of "social distinctions," but is detected; then follows an elopement; an enraged father; contempt and insult from aristocratic connexions; struggles against the tide; singular gleams of good fortune; and an unexpectedly rich old uncle, who supports Mr. and Lady Murray, humbles the Marquis, then reconciles him, and finally sets all things straight, to the full satisfaction of the reader's sense of justice. These very orthodox materials are woven together with considerable cleverness, although in defiance of probability; and make up a story which, at least, is pleasant and amusing.

Mr. Cockton sketches freely and takingly. At the outset of this volume we have a telling picture of a Sudbury election, from which we extract a scene:—

"The day of nomination arrived, and the borough presented a series of scenes which in those days of civilization were held to be essential to success. The band of the Blues first paraded the town, playing patriotic airs with more power than precision, and followed by a troop of dauntless freemen bearing aloft with constitutional pride their flags and their banners, which boldly proclaimed their noble devotion to the altar and the throne, and armed with bludgeons of every description, from the rough hedgestake to the lead-loaded cane. . . . The Blues, however, had not been long out when the equally pure yellow patriots appeared with their band, banners, and bludgeons; and as they soon met the Blues in a narrow street, each party prepared to walk into the other's ranks. Both scorned to give way, and the battle commenced. Patriotic blood flew about in all directions. Heads were broken, banners were rent, and musical instruments were hurled into the air amid shouts of 'Britons never will be slaves!' 'Yellow for ever!' and 'Blue to all eternity!' As the Yellows were the stronger body, they very soon made it appear; when the Blues, finding most of their best men disabled, beat a retreat, and were pursued by the Yellow patriots with the most enthusiastic shouts of victory. . . . At the end of the street, however, the Blues, who had sent to head quarters for assistance, met a powerful reinforcement, the leader of which called upon them to rally, and promptly sent a detachment round for the purpose of attacking the enemy in the rear. The formidable character of this reinforcement at once caused the Yellows to halt; but they were still determined to stand their ground, and for some time they did so valiantly; but when they saw the detachment coming down upon their rear, with blue colours flying, and Blue patriots cheering, in a state of wild rapture, they were seized with an universal panic, and finding themselves thus completely hemmed in, they rushed into the houses, barricaded the doors, and then flew to the windows, from which they hurled upon the hot devoted heads of the Blues every article of furniture they could find. . . . At this interesting juncture, a desperate and formidable body of the Yellows rushed to the rescue with shouts of revenge; when the Blues, who had been harassed by the missiles from the windows—for not even a poker, a chair, or a pair of tongs could descend without doing some slight execution, while a bed-post, a table, or a small chest of drawers, invariably laid a few low—retreated just in time to establish a barricade, with two waggons, a cart, and a showman's van (which happened to be passing at the time, and which contained a British lion, whose services they certainly would have solicited, had they been sure of his being a Blue), behind which barricade they formed themselves into line, and thus left the Yellows in possession of the field. . . . Broken heads had now to be mended, and beer had to be drunk in considerable quantities, in order to keep the spirits of the patriots up; and when these two grand desiderata had been accomplished, the eventful hour fixed for the nomination arrived. . . . This was the most imposing scene of the day—a scene in which the forces of both parties were concentrated—and when the candidates appeared upon the hustings, surrounded by their influential friends, a glorious chorus of yells, groans, and cheers, burst forth with electric effect."

An odd, good-hearted, and innocently self-complacent person, who is very useful in the business of the story, is Mr. Wilkins, an accomplished

assistant to a fashionable draper,—one of the best drawn characters in the book. At a time when he desired to dissuade Alfred Murray from the high alliance he sought with Lady Felicia, he thus discoursed to him of unequal love:—

"Let me advise you, as a friend, not to utter a syllable on the subject to any other soul upon earth! Why you perfectly astonish me! You!—a man of sense and education—you, who are capable of reasoning with a philosopher—you entertain an idea so preposterous!"

"Well," said Alfred, calmly, "it may appear to be preposterous—nay, it may be so in reality—still it is an idea which I do entertain, whether its realization be practicable or not."

"Practicable," echoed Mr. Wilkins. "Practicable! Don't dream of it!—don't allow yourself even to dream of it! You might just as well have fallen in love with one of the daughters of the Emperor of China. It's all very well to love her—to love her as I love her—that is to say, as I love every beautiful woman—but to love her with the view of making her your wife, is far beyond the scope of consistency."

"But suppose she loves me?" suggested Alfred.

"To suppose that," returned Mr. Wilkins, "were to suppose what I should call a social impossibility."

"Why so?" inquired Alfred.

"Oh! I don't at all allude to your personal appearance, which is perfectly unexceptionable; nor do I speak with reference to your intellectual attributes, which are, in my judgment, of a high order; but I really don't believe that these aristocratic creatures ever love! Coronets, wealth, and magnificence, are the objects of their affection—not men! What are men to them without rank?"

"Well, but suppose—I put it hypothetically—suppose that she is an exception to the rule—assuming it to be the rule—and that, being an exception, she really loves me?"

"Well, we'll take it so, if you like; but even in that case, you'd be as far off as ever. She'd never be allowed to form an alliance with you! She might love you fondly, passionately—but would they care a straw about that? If she wept, she might weep—what care they for tears? If she broke her heart, she might break her heart—what do they care about hearts? Had she five hundred hearts, full of love, and all pure, they'd infinitely rather the whole of them were broken than see her give her hand to a man like you."

"But suppose she felt perfectly convinced that by such a marriage only could her happiness be secured?"

"Why, they'd say she knew nothing about it. They wouldn't let her know. 'What,' the Marquis would say, for one, 'would you disgrace the whole family? Happiness! Look for a coronet, girl!—one which will reflect additional lustre upon our race. Love!—fiddlesticks!—don't talk to me about love; if you do I'll lock you up in a lunatic asylum!' My theory of the stars is this, that every star is a separate world; and whenever I see a star shoot—that is, whenever I see it attracted from its sphere by another star—I say, 'There goes the destruction of both.' Do you understand?—Very well, then! I hold this to be an analogous case. If she were to shoot—if she were to be attracted by you from her own sphere—that is, the sphere to which she has always been accustomed—I should say the same thing; I say, 'There goes the destruction of both.'"

There is a good deal of human nature in Mr. Cockton's tale, and a pleasant humour. Its moralities, also, are pure, and the sympathies it breathes are everyway genial.

The Girlhood of Shakspeare's Heroines. By Mrs. COWDEN CLARKE.

Tale 13.—*Hermione; the Russian Princess.*

Tale 14.—*Viola; the Twin.*

London: W. H. Smith and Co., Strand.

In the story of *Hermione*, Mrs. Cowden Clarke has not been so rich and happy in invention as in others of this series of charming sketches of the girlhood of Shakspeare's women. Yet, as the antecedent of "The Winter's Tale," the story makes good preparation for the play. Notwithstanding the majesty and sweetness of *Hermione*, and the interest created by her wrongs and miseries, she is certainly somewhat characterless, in Shakspeare's own delineation; while to Paulina he has given a strong individuality, wrought out with great propriety and clearness. Accordingly, Paulina, equally at least with *Hermione*, is the heroine of Mrs. Clarke's story; and if the Princess herself is unsurpassably full of grace and beauty, her childhood's friend is pictured with a rare appreciation of the elements which constitute a character so sensitively impressionable and so boldly truthful as Paulina's. Leontes, too, is introduced; and displays the native temper which corrupted a noble heart, and gave birth to his passionate and much-repented jealousy. The way is also opened for the ultimate marriage of Paulina with the faithful Camillo, by an incident such as may well be supposed to be implied in the words with which Leontes commends her to his affection. As Shakspeare has indulged himself in anachronisms and various incongruities in the "Winter's Tale," Mrs. Clarke has not felt bound to give to probability of time and scene any great strictness of observance.

In "Viola, the Twin," the invention, in many points, too much resembles other stories of the series; yet is it a charming tale, full of exquisite fancy, and having more than is common with Mrs. Clarke of lively humour. The spirit of the "Twelfth Night" reigns; and the delineation of the incipient Viola discloses a just perception and refined skill in portraiture. We believe these stories will be completed by the publication of one more—"Imogen, the Peerless;" an announcement many will regret.

We have little doubt that the Shakspeare "Heroines

in Girlhood" will have as lasting an acceptance as the "Tales" of Charles and Mary Lamb. In those, all originality was inadmissible—these are distinguished by the high qualities of creative imagination and deep intuition of character.

The History of Palestine; from the Patriarchal Age to the Present Time. With Introductory Chapters on the Geography and Natural History of the Country. &c. By JOHN KITTO, D.D., F.S.A. With upwards of 200 Illustrations. Edinburgh: A. and C. Black. London: Longman and Co.

A few years ago Dr. Kitto published an excellent History of Palestine, for the use of schools—a work not abridged from the larger volumes by the author, issued by Mr. Charles Knight, but an original and independent production. The publishers have had it suggested to them, that the work in question is adapted to the wants of a much more numerous and advanced class than that for which it was specially prepared; and they have, therefore, reproduced it, in a more desirable form, with careful revision and improvements. The merit of this book has been well known to us from the time of its first appearance; and we cordially agree in the opinion that it deserved a republication and a better order of circulation. It is a concise and interesting narrative, agreeable in perusal, and convenient for reference, and gives a full and adequate account of the history of Palestine, together with sufficient information on the political and social institutions, and manners and customs of its ancient inhabitants. We know of no work more suited to general utility, or better fitted to give the reader whose studies stop short of critical investigations, an intelligent acquaintance with the history of the Hebrew people.

The publishers have given the book a most elegant appearance, both internally and externally; and the profuse illustration by beautiful woodcuts is managed with judgment and taste, and so as materially to assist the knowledge of the student.

Things for All Lands and All Times. A New Year's Address, delivered in Stockwell Chapel, 1st January, 1852, at 8 o'clock, a.m. By the Rev. DAVID THOMAS. London: Ward and Co.

THIS New Year's Address is no iteration of common-places ordinarily held to be appropriated to such an occasion. The author sounds his remarks on the words of Isaiah,—"The heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment, and they that dwell therein shall die in like manner; but my salvation shall be for ever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished;" and thence he deduces the truths, that "rectitude and salvation are the elements of God's revelation; and that these elements are ABSOLUTE in human history,—they are for man in all lands and in all ages." That these two elements are necessary for man everywhere is illustrated by several forcible suggestions; and that they are for all times is considered under the three thoughts—"that man is related to two distinct systems of things"—"that one of these systems is transient, the other permanent"—and "that the permanent system should command man's chief concern;" and the practical counsel to which these truths lead is, that the opening year be hallowed by self-devotion "with new earnestness to the work of diffusing these elements of life," till they "mingle with all, and mould all things."

We have great pleasure in commending to universal perusal this thoughtful, suggestive, and beautiful address.

The Dartford Monument; a Finger-post to Ezeter. By A Member of the Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. London: Aylott and Jones, Paternoster-row.

IN 1655, one Christopher Waid, a Protestant linen-weaver, of Dartford, suffered martyrdom by burning at the stake. Some time since, the erection of a monument on the spot was suggested. During the Papal-aggression excitement, the Rev. Mr. Gilmor—who needs no introduction to our readers—took up the suggestion, and carried it out; with a difference, however—a cross being substituted for the proposed obelisk, and "consecrated ground"—the site of an old monastery—for the spot hallowed by the martyr's ashes. A published letter, by the Vicar of Dartford, on the subject, carefully repudiated alliance in the matter with "acrid Dissentism." Hence the brochure noticed above—a very smart, yet serious expansion of the text that speaks of building the tombs of the prophets whom your fathers killed.

EXHUMATION OF A CORPSE.—An inquest was held, yesterday week, before Mr. Carter, the coroner, at Camberwell, on the body of a young girl named Agnes Gaeta Blair Cocks, aged seven years, who died in November last, but whose body—which was interred at Dr. Steane's chapel, Camberwell—had been exhumed, in consequence of reports that death had been caused by poison. The surgeons who were examined proved that death was caused by consumption, and that although the stomach and intestines had been subjected to the severest tests, no trace of poison could be discovered. The jury returned a verdict of Natural Death, and expressed their sympathy with the friends of the deceased, against whom the cruel and malicious reports of foul play had been circulated.

LITERARY MISCELLANY.

O'CONNELL'S LAST APPEARANCE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—He sat in an unusual place—in that generally occupied by the leader of the Opposition—and spoke from the red box, convenient to him from the number of documents to which he had to refer. His appearance was of great debility, and the tones of his voice were very still. His words, indeed, only reached those who were immediately around him, and the Ministers sitting on the other side of the green table, and listening with that interest and respectful attention which became the occasion. It was a strange and touching spectacle to those who remembered the form of colossal energy, and the clear and thrilling tones that had once startled, disturbed, and controlled senates. Mr. O'Connell was on his legs for nearly two hours, assisted occasionally in the management of his documents by some devoted aide-de-camp. To the House generally it was a performance of dumb show—a feeble old man muttering before a table; but respect for the great parliamentary personage kept all as orderly as if the fortunes of a party hung upon his rhetoric; and, though not an accent reached the gallery, means were taken that next morning the country should not lose the last, and not the least interesting, of the speeches of one who had so long occupied and agitated the mind of nations. This remarkable address was an abnegation of the whole policy of Mr. O'Connell's career. It proved, by a mass of authentic evidence ranging over a long term of years, that Irish outrage was the consequence of physical misery, and that the social evils of that country could not be successfully encountered by political remedies. To complete the picture, it concluded with a panegyric of Ulster, and a patriotic quotation from Lord Clare.—*Lord George Bentinck, by B. Disraeli, M.P.*

ANECDOTE OF SIR ROBERT PEEL.—It was about this time that a strange incident occurred at the adjournment of the House. The Minister, plunged in profound, and perhaps painful reverie, was unconscious of the termination of the proceedings of the night, and remained in his seat unmoved. At that period, although with his accustomed and admirable self-control he rarely evinced any irritability in the conduct of Parliamentary business, it is understood that, under less public circumstances, he was anxious and much disquieted. His colleagues, lingering for awhile, followed the other members and left the House; and those on whom, from the intimacy of their official relations with Sir Robert, the office of rousing him would have devolved, hesitated, from some sympathy with his unusual susceptibility to perform that duty, though they remained watching their chief behind the Speaker's chair. The benches had become empty, the lights were about to be extinguished; it is the duty of a clerk of the House to examine the chamber before the doors are closed, and to-night it was also the strange lot of this gentleman to disturb the reverie of a statesman.—*Lord George Bentinck, by B. Disraeli, M.P.*

SAINT AUGUSTINE'S MISSION TO ENGLAND.—In 697, Augustine, with forty companions, landed on the Isle of Thanet, eastward of Kent, and sent to inform the king of the purpose for which they were come. The king made his appearance on the next day, to confer with them on the subject. Fearful of magic, he did not venture his person under the same roof with them, but would only confer with them in the open air. But Augustine's words inspired him with confidence, and he declared that he now saw they had honest intentions, and that they had come from so great a distance to communicate with him that which they considered to be the greatest and best of blessings, yet he could not so lightly and quickly abandon the religion of his nation and of his fathers. All he could do at present by way of acknowledging their good intentions, was this—he would furnish them a dwelling and the means of support at his capital, Dorovern, Canterbury, and they might be allowed to convince such as they could of the truth of their religion, and afterwards to baptize them. Thus the missionaries commenced their labours on a small scale. They took no more than barely sufficed for their scanty diet. Their disinterested, severe mode of life gained for them esteem and confidence. An old dilapidated church belonging to the Roman times, and consecrated to St. Martin, afforded them the first place for divine worship, where they baptized the new Christians, and held with them their religious meetings. It is certain that the propagation of Christianity among this rude people was helped forward by a concurrence of circumstances, or facts, which appeared to the people as miracles, and were also regarded as such by Augustine. By impressions of this kind, effects, great for the moment, though not of an enduring character, may have been produced, and even the missionaries may have suffered themselves to be deceived by the unexpected and surprising success of their labours. Even the king, who had been gradually prepared for it through the influence of his Christian wife, decided to embrace the gospel, and was baptized.—*Neander's Church History, vol. v.*

RARE INSTANCE OF NERVE.—An Indian sword-player declared at a great public festival that he could cleave a small lime laid on a man's palm, without injury to the member; and the General (Sir Charles Napier) extended his right hand for the trial. The sword-player, awed by his rank, was reluctant, and cut the fruit horizontally. Being urged to fulfil his boast, he examined the palm, said it was not one to be experimented upon with safety, and refused to proceed. The General then extended his left hand, which was admitted to be suitable in

form; yet the Indian still declined the trial, and when pressed twice waved his thin keen-edged blade, as if to strike, and twice withheld the blow, declaring he was uncertain of success. Finally he was forced to make trial; and the lime fell open, cleanly divided—the edge of the sword had just marked its passage over the skin without drawing a drop of blood.—*Sir Charles Napier's Administration of Scinde.*

COLOURS IN LADIES' DRESS.—Incongruity may be frequently observed in the adoption of colours without reference to their accordance with the complexion or stature of the wearer. We continually see a light blue bonnet and flowers surrounding a sallow countenance, or a pink opposed to one of a glowing red; a pale complexion associated with canary or lemon yellow, or one of delicate red and white rendered almost colourless by the vicinity of deep red. Now, if the lady with the sallow complexion had worn a transparent white bonnet, or if the lady with a glowing red complexion had lowered it by means of a bonnet of a deeper red colour—if the pale lady had improved the cadaverous hue of her countenance by surrounding it with pale green, which, by contrast, would have suffused it with a delicate pink hue, or had the face

Whose red and white
Nature's own sweet and sunning hand laid on,

been arrayed in a light blue, or light green, or in a transparent white bonnet, with blue or pink flowers on the inside, how different, and how much more agreeable, would have been the impression on the spectator! How frequently again do we see the dimensions of a tall and *embonpoint* figure magnified to almost Brobdignagian proportions by a white dress, or a small woman reduced to Lilliputian size by a black dress! Now, as the optical effect of white is to enlarge objects, and that of black to diminish them, if the large woman had been dressed in black, and the small woman in white, the apparent size of each would have approached the ordinary stature, and the former would not have appeared a giantess, or the latter a dwarf.—*Mrs. Merrifield, in Art Journal.*

ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING, THE POETESS.—My first acquaintance with Elizabeth Barrett commenced about fifteen years ago. She was certainly one of the most interesting persons I had ever seen. Everybody who then saw her said the same: so that it is not merely the impression of my partiality, or my enthusiasm. Of a slight, delicate figure, with a shower of dark curls falling on either side of a most expressive face, large tender eyes, richly fringed with dark eyelashes, a smile like a sunbeam, and such a look of youthfulness, that I had some difficulty in persuading a friend, in whose carriage we went together to Chiswick, that the translator of the "Prometheus" of Æschylus, the authoress of the "Essay on Mind," was old enough to be introduced into company, in technical language, was out. Through the kindness of another invaluable friend, to whom I owe many obligations, but none so great as this, I saw much of her during my stay in town. We met so constantly and so familiarly, that in spite of the difference of age intimacy ripened into friendship, and after my return into the country, we corresponded freely and frequently, her letters being just what letters ought to be—her own talk put upon paper. The next year was a painful one to herself and to all who loved her. She broke a blood-vessel on the lungs which did not heal. If there had been consumption in the family that disease would have intervened. There were no seeds of the fatal English malady in her constitution, and she escaped. Still, however, the vessel did not heal, and after attending her for above a twelvemonth at her father's house in Wimpole-street, Dr. Chambers, on the approach of winter, ordered her to a milder climate. Her eldest brother, a brother in heart and in talent worthy of such a sister, together with other devoted relatives, accompanied her to Torquay, and there occurred the fatal event which saddened her bloom of youth, and gave a deeper hue of thought and feeling, especially of devotional feeling, to her poetry. I have so often been asked what could be the shadow that had passed over that young heart, that now that time has softened the first agony it seems to me right that the world should hear the story of an accident in which there was much sorrow, but no blame. Nearly a twelvemonth had passed, and the invalid, still attended by her affectionate companions, had derived much benefit from the mild sea-breezes of Devonshire. One fine summer morning, her favourite brother, together with two other fine young men, his friends, embarked on board a small sailing-vessel for a trip of a few hours. Excellent sailors all, and familiar with the coast, they sent back the boatmen, and undertook themselves the management of the little craft. Danger was not dreamt of by any one; after the catastrophe no one could divine the cause, but in a few minutes after their embarkation, and in sight of their very windows, just as they were crossing the bar, the boat went down, and all who were in her perished. Even the bodies were never found. I was told by a party who were travelling that year in Devonshire and Cornwall, that it was most affecting to see on the corner houses of every village street, on every church-door, and almost on every cliff for miles along the coast, handbills offering large rewards for linen cast ashore marked with the initials of the beloved dead; for it so chanced that all the three were of the dearest and the best; one, I believe, an only son, the other the son of a widow. This tragedy nearly killed Elizabeth Barrett. She was utterly prostrated by the horror and the grief, and by a natural but a most unjust feeling that she had been in some sort the cause of this great misery. It was not until the following year that she could be removed in an invalid carriage, and by jour-

neys of twenty miles a day, to her afflicted family and her London home. The house that she occupied at Torquay had been chosen as one of the most sheltered in the place. It stood at the bottom of the cliffs almost close to the sea; and she told me herself that during the whole winter the sound of the waves rang in her ears like the moans of one dying. Still she clung to literature and to Greek; in all probability she would have died without that wholesome diversion to her thoughts. Her medical attendant did not always understand this. To prevent the remonstrances of her friendly physician, Dr. Barry, she caused a small edition of Plato to be so bound as to resemble a novel. He did not know, skilful and kind though he were, that to her such books were not an arduous and painful study, but a consolation and delight. Returned to London, she began the life which she continued for so many years, confined to one large and commodious but darkened chamber, admitting only her own affectionate family and a few devoted friends (I, myself, have often joyfully travelled five-and-forty miles to see her, and returned the same evening without entering another house); reading almost every book worth reading in almost every language, and giving herself, heart and soul, to that poetry of which she seemed born to be the priestess. Gradually her health improved. About four years ago she married Mr. Browning, and immediately accompanied him to Pisa. They then settled at Florence; and this summer I have had the exquisite pleasure of seeing her once more in London, with a lovely boy at her knee, almost as well as ever, and telling tales of Italian rambles, of losing herself in chestnut forests, and scrambling on muleback up the sources of extinct volcanoes. May heaven continue to her such health and such happiness.—*Recollections of a Literary Life, by Miss Mitford.*

AIDS TO REFLECTION.

Serve Honesty ever, though without apparent wages. She will pay sure, if slow.—*Bishop Hall.*

A great fortune is not necessary for the attainment of faith, hope, or charity; and he that is endowed with these cannot be miserable.—*Richard Lucas, D.D.*

I would ever wake with God. My first thoughts are for Him who hath made the night for rest and the day for travel, and, as He gives, so blesses both.—*Bishop Hall.*

I am standing on the brink of that vast ocean I must sail so soon; I must speedily lose sight of the shore; and I could not, once, have conceived how little I am now troubled by the thought of how long or how short a time they who remain on that shore may have a sight of me.—*Wordsworth.*

Wealth is not acquired, as many persons suppose, by fortunate speculations and splendid enterprises, but by the daily practices of industry, frugality, and economy. He who relies upon these means will rarely be found destitute, and he who relies upon any other will generally become bankrupt.—*Wayland.*

THE BEST FRIEND AND COMPANION.—The most agreeable of all companions is a simple, frank man, without any high pretensions to an oppressive greatness; one who loves life, and understands the use of it; obliging, alike at all hours; above all, of a golden temper, and steadfast as an anchor. For such a one we gladly exchange the greatest genius, the most brilliant wit, the profoundest thinker.—*G. E. Lessing.*

The advantages conferred by the augmentation of our physical resources, through the medium of increased knowledge and improved art, have this peculiar and remarkable property—that they are in their nature diffusive, and cannot be enjoyed in any exclusive manner by a few.—*Sir John Herschel.*

THE MANNER OF DOING A SERVICE TO OTHERS.—When your endeavours are directed towards doing good to an individual, in other words, to do him service, if there be any option as to the mode or way, consider and observe what mode is most to his taste. If you serve him as you think and say, in a way which is yours, and not his, the value of any service may, by an indefinite amount, be thus reduced. If the action of serving a man, not in the way he wishes to be served, be carried to a certain length, it becomes tyranny, not beneficence; an exercise of power for the satisfaction of the self-regarding affections, not an act of beneficence for the gratification of the sympathetic or social affections.—*Jeremy Bentham.*

TRUE HOSPITALITY.—I pray you, oh, excellent wife, cumber not yourself and me to get a curiously dressed dinner for this man or woman who has alighted at our gates; nor a bedchamber made at too great a cost; these things, if they are curious in them, they can get for a few shillings in any village; but rather let the stranger see, if he will, in your looks, accent, and behaviour, your heart and earnestness, your thought and will, which he cannot buy at any price in any city, and which he may well travel twenty miles, and dine sparsely and sleep hardly, to behold. Let not the emphasis of hospitality lie in bed and board; but let truth, and love, and honour, and courtesy, flow in all thy deeds.—*Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

OXFORD AND REFORM.—One of the largest and most enthusiastic meetings ever held in this city assembled in the Town Hall yesterday week to receive Sir J. Walsley and Mr. G. Thompson, as a deputation from the National Parliamentary Reform Association. The lengthy and eloquent addresses of these gentlemen were listened to with rapt attention; frequent bursts of applause testifying the concurrence of the meeting in the sentiments advanced. An allusion being made to Kossuth, the entire assembly instantaneously rose, and by vociferous cheers gave unmistakable proof of its sympathy with him and his cause. A petition to the House of Commons, urging the necessity of, and praying for an extension of, the suffrage, vote by ballot, &c., to be supported by the city representatives, was unanimously adopted.

GLEANINGS.

The poachers of Perth have successfully resorted to the use of chloroform for the purpose of capturing game.

The discount houses have given notice that their rate for money at call will henceforth be 2 per cent.—*Times.*

Why is a shave in cold water like a lady's boa?—Because it is a Chinchilla.

Why is a game at cards like a timber yard?—Because there are always a number of deals in it.

There are no less than 25,000 inhabitants of Berlin who bear the name of "Schulze," which rather exceeds the proportion of "Smiths" to the population of London.

87,549 watches and 64,784 clocks, were imported into this country during the first ten months of the past year.

A lady hired a western country girl for a family "help," and was surprised to see her poke her head into the parlour one afternoon when visitors were present, and ask, "Marm, did you call just now? I thought I heard a yell."

The year 1851 has witnessed the completion of the greater part of the lines actually commenced in consequence of the railway mania of 1845.

The first mayor of Nottingham, owing to reverses of fortune, has been compelled to accept of a subordinate situation, in the occupancy of which he will have to carry the mace behind the mayor for the time being. A man exhibiting such honest courage as this, is illustrious in any position.

A young gentleman, who has just married a little undersized beauty, says she would have been taller, but she is made of such precious materials that nature could not afford it.

A MORAL.

How often in this troubled world
Of sorrow and of sin,
Short-sighted man will buy his skates
Just as the thaw sets in.

HOW AMERICAN EDITORS SPEAK OF EACH OTHER.—According to the *Express*, the editor of the *Herald* is "a viper." According to the *Herald*, George Wilkes, of the *Police Gazette*, is "a felon." Colonel Webb, of the *Courier*, says that Willis is "a seducer, and, morally speaking, a murderer;" while the *Day Book* charges Colonel Webb with being "a rogue and a rascal."

SIMPLE SCIENCE.—Juvenile: Papa, I've split the butter all over the new table-cover.—Papa: Rub the solid portion briskly with some woollen fabric, my dear.—Juvenile: But what good will that do, papa?—Papa (clearing his throat): Why, friction generates caloric, which volatilizes the oleaginous particles of the stearine matter!

BANKERS' PRIZE ESSAY.—The prize of £100, offered, in January last, by Jas. Wm. Gilbert, Esq., F.R.S., of the London and Westminster Bank, for the best essay upon the Great Exhibition in connexion with "Practical Banking," has been awarded to Mr. Granville Sharp, accountant in the East of England Bank at Norwich.

During the last year there were more than 1,000 fires in London, of which between 400 and 500 houses are for the most part destroyed.

Mrs. Bloomer, author of the new style of dress, has an article in the last number of her *American paper*, in which she says that could she have foreseen the notoriety and ridicule which she has incurred, she would never have commenced the movement.

ECCENTRICITY OF TURNER THE PAINTER.—Mr. Turner died in an obscure lodging in Chelsea, but where he was living under an assumed name. The story is as follows:—He loved retirement, and entertained a peculiar dislike to having his lodging known—sharing, with all his immense wealth, the feeling of the poorest bankrupt. He saw lodgings to his liking, asked the price, found them cheap, and that was quite as much to his liking. But the lady wanted a reference—"I will buy your house outright, my good woman," was the reply, somewhat angrily. Then an agreement was wanted—met by an exhibition of bank notes and sovereigns, and an offer to pay in advance, an offer which proved, of course, perfectly satisfactory. The artist's difficulties were not, however, yet over. The landlady wanted her lodger's name—"in case any gentleman should call." This was a worse dilemma. "Name, name," he muttered to himself in his usual gruff manner. "What is your name?"—"My name is Mrs. Brook."—"O," was the reply, "then I am Mr. Brook;"—and as for "Mr. Brook" Turner died at Chelsea.—*Athenaeum.*

HOW TO ASCERTAIN A DISTANCE.—At one of the courts of the revising barrister of Surrey, an overseer was asked the usual question of how far he came? To which he replied he could not say. "Oh!" replied the barrister, in a very mild manner, "it is of no consequence, only I could have allowed you a shilling a mile." When the overseer instantly replied, "Oh, it is eight miles, at all events." The barrister, after a hearty laugh, said, "Very well, I will allow you 8s. then."

Nothing was so much dreaded in our schoolboy days as to be punished by sitting between two girls. Ah! the force of education. In after-years we learned to submit to such things without shedding a tear.—*Leicester Mercury.*

A TRAVELLER'S STORY.—An Englishman had hired a smart travelling servant, and, on arriving at his inn at evening, knowing well the stringency of police regulations in Austria, where he was, he called for the usual register of travellers, that he might duly inscribe himself therein. His servant replied that he had anticipated his wishes, and had registered him in full form as a "Rentier Anglais." "But how have you put down my name? I have not told it you." "I can't exactly pronounce it, but I copied it faithfully from Milor's portmanteau." "But it is not there. Bring me the book." What was his amazement at finding, instead of a very plain English name of two-syllables, the following portentous entry of himself:—

"Monsieur Warrantedsolidleather, Anglais, Rentier."

Such is the compliment of warranted solidity which we would gladly have paid to us all over the world.—*Dublin Review.*

BIRTHS.

November 19, at Vizagapatam, HARRIET MARY, the wife of the Rev. J. HAY, of a daughter.
 January 6, at Upper Tulse-hill, Mrs. JOHN DAWSON, of a son.
 January 7, at 1, Latham-street, Preston, the wife of the Rev. J. SPENCE, M.A., of a son.
 January 7, the wife of Mr. WILLIAM PAXON, of Skinner-street, of a daughter.
 January 8, at the College-house, Rotherham, Mrs. F. J. FALDING, of a son.
 January 8, at 3, Carlton-villas, Holloway, Mrs. JOHN COOK, Jun., of a son.
 January 10, at St. John's-wood Park, the wife of JOHN KAYE, Esq., proprietor of the *Westday Times*, of a daughter.
 January 10, at Burton-crescent, London, the wife of the Rev. T. SHAVILL, of twins.
 January 11, the wife of Mr. W. S. BAKER, chemist, of Emsworth, Hants, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

January 1, at Fish-street Chapel, Hull, by the Rev. Thomas Stratton, Mr. HOLDSWORTH to Mrs. EMMA LAVEBOOK; both of that town.
 January 4, at Zion Independent Chapel, Highworth, by the Rev. T. Gilbert, Mr. JOHN WILKINS to ELIZA STREET; both of that town.
 January 5, at St. Peter's, Easton-square, by the Rev. Jermyn Pratt, FRANCIS CAPPER BROOKS, Esq., of Ufford, to LOUISA, second daughter of the late J. DUFF, Esq.
 January 6, at the New Baptist Chapel, Hammersmith, by the Rev. C. Morris, the Rev. SAMUEL WELLS KILPIN, of Trinity Chapel, Reading, to ELIZABETH ANNE, eldest daughter of Mr. W. C. FULLER, of the Grove, Hammersmith.
 January 6, at the Independent Chapel, Frampton-on-Severn, Gloucestershire, by the Rev. W. Lewis, the Rev. THOMAS YOUNG, of Blakeney, to MARY ANN, only child of Mr. W. COWLES, of Fretherne, in the same county.
 January 7, at the Baptist Chapel, Emsworth, by the Rev. W. C. Ibberson, Mr. JAMES BOXALL, of Rowland's Castle, to PHOEBE PARKER, of Emsworth.
 January 8, at Zion Chapel, Halifax, by the Rev. J. Pridle, Mr. BENJAMIN PRIDLE to Miss ANN WOOD; both of Halifax.
 January 8, at Salem Chapel, Mile-end-road, by the father of the bride, Mr. JOHN JOSEPH MAYO, of the Home Office, to HARRIET PLUMBRIDGE, eldest daughter of the Rev. H. L. ADAMS.
 January 8, at St. Michael's Church, Blackrock, Cork, by the Rev. John Tottenham, JOHN DALRYMPLE CARNEGIE, Esq., of Ballina, to ELIZABETH, fifth daughter of J. MANLY, Esq., of Fermoy, county Cork.
 January 12, at the Independent Chapel, Chulmleigh, Devon, by the Rev. J. Young, Mr. WILLIAM JOHN SEWARD, of Plymouth, to MARY, relict of the late Mr. GALTRIDGE, of Chulmleigh.
 January 13, at the Scotch Church, River-terrace, by the Rev. Dr. James Hamilton, Mr. ALEXANDER FAIRBAIRN, to MARY MUIR, youngest daughter of the late Mr. G. GRANT, merchant, of Calneburgh, Fifeshire.
 January 13, at the Independent Chapel, St. Neot's, by the Rev. G. B. Babier, of Cambridge, Mr. FREDERICK GEARD, to Miss SUSANNAH SCHLEUCKER; both of St. Neot's.

DEATHS.

December 25, at Deal, much respected, aged 67 years, Mr. GEORGE SUDDEN, deacon of the Baptist church in that place.
 December 30, the Rev. DANIEL WRIGHT, for many years pastor of the Baptist church worshipping in the Darkhouse Chapel, Coseley, Staffordshire.
 January 4, at 23, Goswell-terrace, Clerkenwell, after an illness of four years, aged 65 years, CHARLOTTE, the wife of Mr. R. SIMMONS.
 January 4, aged nearly 60, MARY, wife of Mr. T. CATCHPOOL, of Lexden-road, Colchester.
 January 6, at the residence of his brother, at Poyle, aged 50, THOMAS INOTSON.
 January 7, at the house of her son-in-law (J. G. Stapleton, Esq., Clapham-rise, Surrey), in her 85th year, REBECCA, relict of the late J. BULL, Esq., of Stockwell-place.
 January 8, aged 22, JOHN CLARKE, third son of the Rev. S. WIGG, of Leicester.
 January 8, at Hastings, aged 73 years, SARAH, relict of J. W. PHIPSON, Esq., late of the Loxelles, near Birmingham.
 January 8, at John-street, Sunderland, aged 83 years, ELIZABETH, widow of the late Mr. E. ROBINSON, of Darlington.
 January 9, at Sherbourne House, Coventry, PHOEBE, youngest daughter of J. CASH, Esq., of that city.
 January 9, at Wellingborough, after long affliction, aged 65 years, Mr. JESSE COWPER, father of the Rev. B. H. Cowper, of Morton-in-Marsh.
 January 9, at his residence, Lister-street, Hull, aged 78 years, the Rev. D. W. ASTON, for many years the pastor of the Independent Church, Church-street, Buckingham, and father-in-law to the Rev. J. Sibree.
 January 10, at Horsey, AMBY, wife of J. TUCKER, Esq.

A BOILER EXPLOSION, attended with fatal consequences, occurred at Gold's Hill, near Dudley, on Wednesday, on the premises of Messrs. Davies and Bloomer. The furnace-man, named Evans, and his two assistants, were instantly killed; and a man named James, who was by trade a shingler, died from some cause which surgeons cannot satisfactorily explain, as there are no outward appearances of injury. The cause of the accident has not yet been satisfactorily shown.

THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOL OF MINES.—Prince Albert has intimated to the Government School of Mines the intention of the Prince of Wales to grant two annual exhibitions (to be named the "Duke of Cornwall's Exhibitions"), the amount of each being sufficient to defray the expenses of the course of instruction at that institution.

THE CONDEMNED CONVICT, SARAH HILL.—On Friday, Mr. Charles Gilpin wrote thus to the *Daily News* :—

Can you believe that after the reprieve of Smith for beating out the brains of his child, Sarah Ann Hill is really to be hanged on Saturday, in the City of York, for the alleged murder of her newly-born infant? If ever there was a case which called for the exercise of the Royal prerogative, here is that case. This wretched girl was literally born in the streets of Wakefield. Notwithstanding this, and her innumerable disadvantages, she had, before her crime, always borne a good character. Being out of a situation, she sought refuge in a beer-shop, and was there confined, and is charged with having destroyed her infant immediately on its birth. Two most respectable depositions from Wakefield and York have had interviews at the Home Office with Sir George Grey and Mr. Waddington; they presented numerously-signed memorials on behalf of the convict, and up to to-day I had every hope that their efforts would be successful. I find, however, this morning, that she is left for execution.

Before the appearance of this letter, however, a Queen's messenger had arrived at York Castle, bearing a reprieve. The messenger left London only the previous evening.

In June last, in Adelaide, Australia, Joseph Neck was married to Penelope Heals!

MONEY MARKET AND COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

RAILWAYS AND RAILWAY BUSINESS IN 1851.

WE promised, last week, to give, in our present number, a summary of the Railway business and traffic of Great Britain in 1851. Thanks to the importance now attached to correct and careful statistics of our commercial state and progress, it is not difficult to arrive at the most precise knowledge of our position in relation to every branch of industrial economy. Railways may almost be said to have nothing to do but with figures. Statistics will tell their whole tale—and sad chapters are there in that tale! But, on the whole, the history of Railways in Great Britain is the history of the greatest triumph of mind over matter that we have yet achieved—affords more examples of the conquest of almost insurmountable difficulties, by sheer skill and perseverance, than any other history has chronicled—is the greatest monument of British enterprise that has yet been reared. In 1842, the total number of miles of railway opened to the public was 1,510. Since then the increase, as near as can be ascertained, has been as follows :—

	1842	1843	1844	1845	1846	1847	1848	1849	1850	1851
Miles	1510	1640	1840	2030	2230	2430	2630	2830	3030	3230

The total number of miles opened in 1851 was 6,257, or more than four times the number opened only nine years previously! It will be seen that the greatest number opened in any year was in that succeeding the date of the "mania." Latterly the increase has been on a more moderate scale; not because the demand for travelling accommodation has lessened, but because of the evil effects of the mad speculations of that period. Many of the lines begun about that time have been altogether suspended—and most of our readers, we presume, have seen the relics of these abortive schemes, for they are scattered over every part of the country, habited or uninhabited—in the rusty rails, flung hither and thither, and the broken and decayed carriages, carts, and working utensils, looking like the remains of some encampment suddenly surprised by the enemy. Some of these lines have been suffered to be discontinued so long after the passage of the Acts of Parliament authorizing their construction, that the companies obtaining the act have lost their right to its benefits. The Andover and Basingstoke line affords such an instance, and the landowners of the neighbourhood through which it was intended to run have now decided to complete it themselves, and they have the benefit of all that has hitherto been done on it.

It might be supposed that, owing to increased facilities of transport, and improvements resulting from increased knowledge and experience, the average cost of the construction of railways would now be lessened, but from some cause or other, this has not been the case. In 1842, the cost of construction averaged £34,690 per mile; in 1851, £35,058—so that the amount has increased rather than decreased, and experience here has proved of "no avail." It has unfortunately happened, too, that the traffic returns have been lessened as the number of miles has been augmented; for, in 1842, the traffic returns averaged £3,113 per mile; in 1850, £2,227 per mile; and, in 1851, £2,280 per mile. Previous to 1851, the scale was constantly downward, and the turn of the tide during the last year, is to be attributed solely to the influence of the Great Exhibition. The following statement of the amount of capital expended on Railways we take from Dr. Lardner's recent and able work on "Railway Economy," to which also, and to the *Times* newspaper and *Herald's Journal*, we are indebted for most of the foregoing information :—

In 1842, the capital expended on Railways amounted to.....	£52,380,100
In 1843	57,635,000
In 1844	63,489,100
In 1845	71,647,000
In 1846	83,165,100
In 1847	109,528,000
In 1848	148,200,000
In 1849	181,000,000
In 1850	219,762,700
In 1851	229,175,230

Add to this, railways not yet finished, amounting to about £7,666,190, and we have a gross total of £236,841,420, expended on railways up to the present year; an amount larger than has ever before been invested in any one direction, and only exceeded by the amount spent on WAR. It would be an interesting train of thought to follow out—What have been the relative advantages to this country, and which has entailed with it the most glory, the two hundred and thirty-six millions expended on railways or the eight hundred millions expended on war?

Railways pay but a very moderate rate of interest on the capital invested in them. It has been calculated that the average payment, after deducting all expenses, is 3½ per cent. Some, of course, pay more, but some pay less, but the largest amount of interest now yielded is but a paltry return for

the risk encountered. Railways, therefore, offer not much inducement to capitalists; but, in the present state of the money market, it is a question whether a chance of 3½ per cent is not better than the mere nominal interest allowed by the Banks.

We gave last week a table of the fluctuations of the English and Foreign Stocks for the past year; but great as were the fluctuations in the prices of the latter, that of Railway Shares exceeds them. On eleven of the principal lines, prices have ruled as follows :—

	Lowest	Highest		Lowest	Highest
Caledonian	5	17	North Western ..	111	135
Eastern Counties ..	5	8	South Western ..	75	93
Great Northern	15	19	Midland	35	67
Great Western	74	94	South Eastern ..	18	29
Lancashire and			York, Newcastle,		
Yorkshire	45	65	and Berwick ..	16	33
Brighton	86	99			

The total difference between the highest and lowest prices of the above lines is £158 5s.; or supposing anyone to have bought one share in each at the lowest price, and sold at the highest price, he would have realized just this amount of profit on an investment of £494.

Did our space permit, we might extend these investigations much further. The following summary will show its results, and with it we must leave the subject :—

Capital expended to December 31, 1851 ..	£236,841,420
Number of miles opened	6,257
Receipts per annum	£14,567,910
Average cost per mile	£35,058
Average receipts per mile per annum	£2,281

CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

The Stock Market during the past week has exhibited very little animation, and hardly any change has taken place in prices. The payment of the half-yearly dividends may account for this, after they have been paid, prices will, most probably, look up. Bank Stock continues to be very firm, and Exchequer Bills have increased 1s. since our last.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS :—

	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Ct. Cons.	97 ex d	97 ex d	97 ex d	97	96	97
Cons. for Acct.	97 ex d	97 ex d	97 ex d	97	97	97
5 per Ct. Red.	97	97	97	97	97	99
New 3 per Ct.						
Annuities ..	98	99	98	98	98	96
India Stock ..	Shut	259	Shut	Shut	—	263
Bank Stock ..	216 16	216	216 16	216	216	216
Exchq. Bills ..	58 pm.	58 pm.	58 pm.	59 pm.	59 pm.	57 pm.
India Bonds ..	72 pm.	72 pm.	—	72 pm.	73 pm.	70 pm.
Long Annuity ..	7	7 1-16	7	7	—	7

Business in the Foreign Market has been more brisk, and particular securities are in great favour. Sardinian has risen again 4 to 5 per cent.; Spanish 1 per cent., and Mexican 2 to 2½ per cent. Other bonds are very firm, and there is a general tendency to advance.

The following are the prices of to-day :—

Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 93½; Danish Five per Cents., 103; French Five per Cent. Rentes, 104f. 50c.; Ditto, Three per Cents., 70f. 25c. (Exchange, 25f. 25c.); Granada, 16½ 17; Brazilian Bonds, 94 ½ and ¾; Ditto, Small, —; Mexican Bonds, 1846, 29½ 28½; Peruvian Bonds, Five per Cent., 95; Ditto, Deferred, 47½ 48; Portuguese Four per Cent., 34; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cent., 103½ ½; Sardinian Five per Cent., 88½ 90 89½; Spanish Bonds, Five per Cent. 23½ ½; Venezuela, 36½; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cent., 59½ ½; Ditto, Four per Cent., 91½ ½; Ecuador Bonds, 3½; Austrian Five per Cents., 79.

The Share Market has been dull, and latterly declining; but the traffic returns still show a comparative increase on last year's receipts. French and other foreign lines have been largely dealt in, but those also suffered a decline on Saturday, from which they have not yet recovered.

Aberdeen, 11 11½; Boston and Eastern Junction, 5½; Caledonian, 15½ 15½; Chester and Holyhead, 20½; Eastern Counties, 6½ ½; Great Northern, 18½ ½; Great Western, 85½ 86; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 60½ 61; London and Blackwall, 6½ 7; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 96 97; London and North Western, 115 15½; London and South Western, 83½ 4½; Midland, 55½ 56; North British, 6½ 7; North Stafford, 8½ 8½; South Eastern, 20½ ½; South Wales, 29 30; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 17½ ½; York and North Midland, 23½ 2½; Boulogne and Amiens, 10½ ½; Namur and Liege, 6½; Northern of France, 18½ ½; Orleans and Bordeaux, 5½ ½; Paris and Rouen, 26; Rouen and Havre, 9½.

The following is from the *Mining Journal*, of Saturday, on the business of that market :—

"We have to report a marked improvement in the amount of business transacted since our last publication, while prices generally have been steady, and in some cases improved. Several favourite dividend mines have advanced in value, and bid fair to continue their upward course. Carn Brea and Wheal Owles have experienced a decline, which may be accounted for by the decreased amount of ore sales and the non-payment of the usual dividends. In speculative mines the business has been equally satisfactory, and to a larger amount than usual. The members of the Mining Exchange having determined on the issue of a weekly list of prices, showing the business done in each mine, the public will be able to obtain a further guide to security in their future operations, which cannot fail to be productive of considerable benefit to the mining community."

WOOL, COTTON, Monday.—The imports of wool into London last week amounted to 325 bales; of which 719 were from Port Phillip, 73 from Italy; 17 from Germany, and the rest from Belgium and Egypt. The market is steady.

LIVERPOOL, January 10.—SCOTCH.—There has been so far little doing in any kind of Scotch Wool since the 1st inst., but holders are firm in price, expecting some improvement soon.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Laid Highland Wool, per 24lbs.	9	0	9	9
White Highland do.	12	0	13	0
Laid Crossed do., unwashed.	10	9	11	6
Do. do. washed.	11	0	12	6
Laid Cheviot do., unwashed.	11	0	12	6
Do. do. washed.	13	6	16	6
White Cheviot do. do.	22	0	24	0

Imports from the 1st. 5 bags.
Total imports 1850. 13,182 do.
Do. 1851. 10,983 do.

POWELL.—Being without stock of useful Wool generally, there is little doing by private contract. If there was a better choice, we should have more doing.

Imports for the week. 502 bales.
Previously this year. 78,015 "

COAL MARKET, Monday, January 12.

A firm market, at last day's prices.
North Perry Hartley.—s. Od.; Hartlepool's—s. Od.; J. Hartlepool's—s. Od.; Hutton's, 17s. 6d.; Stewart's, 17s. 6d.; Tees, —s. Od.; Haswell's, —s. Od.; Lambton's, —s. Od.; Braddell's, 17s. 6d.; Kellie's, 17s. 6d.; Wylan's, 15s. 3d.; Eden, 16s. 6d.; Whitworth's, 14s. 6d.; Exon, —s. Od.; Richmond's, —s. Od.; Adelaide's, 16s. 6d.; R. Hutton's, —s. Od.; Durham, —s. Od.; Hough Hall, —s. Od.; Cassop's, —s. Od.; Reeper's, —s. Od.; Brown's Deane, —s. Od.; Belmont's, —s. Od.; Whitworth's, 14s. 6d.; Hartley's, 14s. 6d.; Chardoe, —s. Od.; West Kellie, —s. Od.; Bote's Tanfield, —s. Od.

Fresh arrivals, 29; left from last day, 25; total, 54.

METALS.

ENGLISH IRON, s.	per ton.	FOREIGN STEEL, c.	s. d.
Bar, bolt, and square, London.	4 17 6	Swedish keg.	14 0 0
Nail rods.	5 17 6	Ditto piggot.	15 0 0
Hoops.	6 12 6	ENGLISH COPPER, d.	
Sheets, singles.	7 7 6	Sheets, sheathing, and bolts.	per lb. 0 0 10
Bars, at Cardiff and Newport.	4 7 6	Tough cake, per ton.	88 10 0
Refined metal, Wales.	43 0 0	Tile.	87 10 0
Do. Anthracite.	3 10 0	Old copper, c, per lb.	0 0 8
Pig, in Wales.	3 0 0	South American, in bond.	77 0 87
Do. do. forge.	3 5 2	ENGLISH LEAD, p.	
Do. No. 1, Clyde, net cash.	21 18 0	Pig, per ton.	16 10 0
Blewitt's Patent Refined iron for bars, rails, &c., free on board, at Newport.	3 10 0	Sheet.	17 10 0
Do. do. for tin-plates, boiler plates, &c.	4 10 0	Red lead.	19 10 0
Stirling's Patent toughened pigs, in Glasgow.	2 10 0	White ditto.	25 0 0
Do. in Wales.	3 10 0	Patent shot.	21 0 0
Staffordshire bars, at the works.	5 5 0	FOREIGN LEAD, s.	
Pigs, in Staffordshire.	5 5 0	Spanish, in bond.	15 17 6
Rails.	5 0 5	ENGLISH TIN, s.	
Chairs.	4 0 0	Block, per cwt.	4 4 0
FOREIGN IRON, s.		Bar.	4 5 0
Swedish.	11 10 0	Refined.	4 10 0
CAND.	17 0 0	FOREIGN TIN, s.	
PBI.	0 0 0	Banca.	4 4 0
Gourieff.	0 0 0	Straits.	4 3 6
Archangel.	5 10 0	TIN PLATES, s.	
		IC Coke, per box.	1 4 0
		IC Charcoal.	1 8 6
		IX ditto.	1 14 6
		Plates, warehouse, per ton.	15 7 8
		Do. to arrive.	15 12 8
		ZINC, s.	
		English sheet, per ton.	30 0 0
		QUICKSILVER, per lb.	0 3 0

Terms.—a, 6 months, or 2½ per cent. dis.; b, ditto; c, ditto; d, 6 months, or 3 per cent. dis.; e, 6 months, or 2½ per cent. dis.; f, ditto; g, ditto; h, ditto; i, ditto; k, net cash; l, 6 months, or 3 per cent. dis.; m, net cash; n, 6 months, or 1½ per cent. dis.; o, ditto, 1½ dis.

COLONIAL MARKETS—Tuesday Evening.

SUGAR.—We have again to report a dull opening for the week of this market. 830 hhds. of West India sold at prices a shade in favour of the buyers. Barbadoes, 30s. 6d. to 41s. 13,000 bags of Bengal were offered in public sale; about 5,000 were withdrawn or bought in, the remainder sold at a decline of 1s. on Benares and 6d. on other descriptions. Benares sold from 38s. 6d. to 38s. 6d.; Mauritius kind, 24s. to 23s. 6d.; Khaur, 20s. 6d. to 21s. 900 bags low Mauritius sold also at 6d. decline, 21s. 6d. to 30s. 6d. 1,600 boxes of yellow Havannah are reported sold by private contract, 33s. 6d. duty paid, presumed to be for exportation. The refined market quoted the same as last week. Grocery lumps, 43s. 6d. to 48s.

COFFEE.—50 casks plantation Ceylon sold in public sale at about previous rates. 750 bags of good ordinary native Ceylon offered and bought in at 40s. 350 Costa Rica sold 41s. to 50s.; and 230 bags Mysore, 38s. to 39s.; 500 bags Bahia bought in 35s.

COCOA.—140 barrels and 70 bags of Trinidad sold at 28s. 6d. to 31s., which were previous rates. Part bought in 25s.

TEA.—The public sales commenced to day, consisting of 25,000 packages of various kinds; about 10,000 passed auction, 5,000 sold. Hyson and gunpowder sold from one to three decline, chiefly of old import. No Congou sold. Scented teas chiefly bought in.

SALTPEPER.—600 bags sold steadily in public sale, refraction 7½ to 10½, at 25s. to 27s.

RICE.—This article has a firm appearance, and the public sales went off well. 3,000 bags Mouline sold at 8s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. 1,400 bags damaged Arracan, 1st and 2nd class, sold at 7s. to 8s. 500 bags Bengal, low quality, sold at 8s. 6d.; and 500 bags Madras, 8s. to 8s. 6d.

PIMENTO.—400 bags sold steadily at previous rates, 4½d. to 4½d. per lb.

PEPPER.—The small public sales went off at an advance of 1 per lb.; Aleppo, 3½ to 3½, and Malabar, 3½ to 3½.

INDIGO.—12,000 chests are already declared for the next quarterly sale.

COTTON.—Prices are steady but the market is inactive.

RUM.—Remains quoted the same as last week.

TALLOW.—The market is dull and prices are a shade lower, 36s. 3d. to 36s. 6d.

In other articles no material alteration.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED immediately. J. Harris, Painswick, Gloucestershire, has a vacancy for a respectable youth, as an apprentice to the General Drapery trade. He would be treated as one of the family, and strict attention paid to his spiritual and moral welfare. A moderate premium required.

WANTED, in a quiet and respectable family, a thorough general servant, age, from 23 to 30—wages, £12 per annum and tea and sugar; no b-r found. The under-nurse does part of the house work. An unexceptionable character will be required.

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Behold the promised hour;

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And comes to exalt his power.

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If, as thy power is surely here,

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Bid all strife for ever cease.

By thy reconciling love,

Every stumbling-block remove;

Each to each unite, and ear;

Come and spread thy banner here.

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